

# SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 27th Year  
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## Clowning around and Hamming it up on the Great Circus Train



The miles of smiles on the faces of the thousands of people who crowd along the tracks to watch the Great Circus Train as it rolls on its journey of joy from Baraboo to Milwaukee are often seen inside the train, too. Here, two of the three HF operators on the 1996 trip enjoy a laugh and have fun with a clown and Buffalo Bill. The

operators are, at left, Al Johnson, AA7CS, Fort Atkinson, and, at right, Don Evenson, K9JYX, Baraboo, whose call was used. It was exactly thirty years ago that Don first operated Amateur Radio from the train. More photos and a story are on page 8 of this issue.

- BSSS staff photo

## It's coming down.. It's on the ground!

The devastating tornado that tore through Oakfield Thursday evening, July 18, injuring 21 and doing at least \$50 million in damage, was first observed by an Amateur Radio Skywarn spotter, and the headline is what he relayed to net control and to the Fond du Lac County Emergency Operating Center.



The tornado, discussed in a brief telephone interview with Fond du Lac County ARES Emergency Coordinator Bob Fishelson, K9GEI, was rated a Force 3 event on the Fujita scale of 1 to 5. The tornado which smashed Barneveld in June 1984 was a Force 5, which means winds over 300 MPH.

Bob says from what he saw following the tornado's journey through the village of about 1,000 people, he believes it to have been more likely a Force 4 or even higher.

Although told that the potential for severe weather had diminished, Bob used his own instincts and mobilized his spotters around 6 p.m. The events which followed proved him right. In fact, not one, but four funnel clouds were seen in two days. (A funnel is a would-be tornado which has not yet touched down.) At least one did. Bob said it was big, black, very wide, and very ugly.

Bob tells BSSS that a longer story and a photo of the tornado itself will follow for our September issue.

- Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ

## Foundation for Amateur Radio announces scholarship winners

Includes awards from South Milwaukee, West Allis Clubs

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. is pleased to announce the 1996 winners for the fifty-six scholarships which it administers. These scholarships were open to all licensed radio amateurs meeting the qualifications and residence requirements of the various sponsors.



**South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club: Four scholarships, \$500 each**

These were awarded to Brian J. Brechlin, KB9JFP, Waukesha, WI; Michael D. Kaun, N9RNC, Menomonie, WI; Raymond G. Meyer, N9PBY, Port Washington, WI; and Steven D. Miller, KB9DFE, Spooner, WI.

**West Allis Radio Amateur Club: WARAC Memorial Scholarships, three scholarships, \$1000 each**

The WARAC awards went to Christopher D. Molek, KB9GTK, Richland Center, WI; Karl J. Mueller, N9NFQ, West Allis, WI; and Amy L. Tlachac, N9TLN, Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

The Foundation is a non-profit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia, representing more than seventy-five clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. It is devoted exclusively to the scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

Announcement of our 1997 awards will appear in the January or February issues of the major Amateur Radio publications and selected radio club newsletters.

- Foundation for Amateur Radio

### IN THIS ISSUE..

**WISCONSIN AMATEUR  
INTERNET ADDRESSES**  
See page 7

### ON THE INSIDE

What's Happening: Edited by Ken Ebner, K9EN	2
Here and There	4, 5
Section Manager's Notes: K9GDF's Final Column	4
The Computer Corner: By Dr. Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR	6
Ask Elmer	7
Wisconsin Amateur Internet Addresses	7
The 226-Mile Journey of the 1996 Great Circus Train: HF Works Well	8
Getting Teed Off	9
New Products	9
Wisconsin Nets Association	10
Watts Snoo (Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs at UW-Stevens Point)	10
Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club	10
Washington County Amateur Radio Club	11
Wisconsin Valley Radio Association	11
Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club	11
FCC Call Sign Update	11
Racine Megacycle Club	12
Quarter Century Wireless Association/Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162	12
Riverland Amateur Radio Club	13
Field Day Candidis	13
Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association (WAPRI)	14
Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club	15





# WHAT'S HAPPENING

✕ Swapfests and Other Social Events ✕ Club Meetings  
✕ Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

EDITED BY KENNETH A. EBNETER, K9EN, 822 WAUONA TRAIL, PORTAGE, WI 53901

## Swapfests and Other Social Events

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 1996.** The Marshfield Area Amateur Radio Society will be holding their 5th annual picnic. Gather around 11:00 a.m. Potluck, Swapfest. In Wildwood Park, Marshfield, WI. Talk in on 147.180. All welcome. Contact: Guy A. Boucher, KF9XX, 107 West Third St., Marshfield, WI 54449. (715) 384-4323. Packet:KF9XX@W9IHW.WI.USA.NA.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1996.** Northwoods Hamfest, sponsored by the Rhinelander Repeater Association and the Northwoods ARES at Sugar Camp Town Hall, Highway 17, 13 miles north of Rhinelander, WI. Contact: Mary Berger, NS9Q, 367 Lois St., Rhinelander, WI 54501. (715) 362-9296.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1996.** Swapfest sponsored by C.A.R.S. at Crystal Ridge Ski Lodge, 76th Street and Loomis Road (Hwy 36), Franklin, WI. Contact C.A.R.S., P.O. Box 325, Franksville, WI 53126-0325, or call Mike N9OEZ at (414) 325-7427.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 1996.** DuPage ARC Hamfest Computer Show. Hawthorne Race Course, 3500 South Cicero Ave., Stickney, IL. Contact DARC Hamfest 96, 7511 Walnut Ave., Woodridge, IL 60517.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1996.** Hamfest & Computer Expo, Omni Center, Onalaska, WI. 2 1/2 miles north of LaCrosse on Highway 35. Free parking and free coffee. See ad elsewhere this issue for additional information and map. Contact: Dick Low, K0JYB, 1520 Namomis Ave., La Crosse, WI 54603. (608) 784-9176.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 25, 1996.** Woodstock '96 Hamfest. McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock, IL. Contact: voice/fax (847) 658-1678. e-mail tcrqinc@aol.com.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1996.** Hayward Hamfest, Hayward National Guard Armory, 721 North Iowa (Main) St., Hayward, WI. Contact: Namekagon Valley Wireless

Association, PO Box 13010, Hayward, WI 54843. Wally Kruk, N9NAO, @ (715) 643-4940. Mary, KB9LFF or John, N9QWH @ (715) 378-2368, or Ed, KB9JPR or Jill, KB9KPL @ (715) 634-8921.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1996.** Hamfest Radiofest Computer Expo, Dubuque County Fairgrounds, Dubuque, IA. Contact: GRARC, PO Box 546, Dubuque, IA 52004, or Loren Heber, (319) 556-5755, Jerry Lange, (319) 556-3050 or Jerry Ehlers, 583-1016. e-mail sheber@mwci.net.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1996.** Bolingbrook ARS Hamfest 96, Inwood Recreation Center, 3000 W. Jefferson St. (Rt. 52), Joliet, IL. Contact: BARS Hotline at (708) 759-7005 between 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 15, 1996.** ARRL National Convention at Superfest 96, Peoria Civic Center, Peoria IL. For exhibition information contact: R & B Productions, 7150 University ST., Peoria, IL 61614 (309) 693-9667. Fax: (309) 693-3465. For general information contact: Peoria Area ARC, PO Box 3508, Peoria, IL 61612-3508. Ron Morgan, KB9NW, General Chairman, (309) 692-FEST. E-Mail: Superfest@AOL.com.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1996.** Dane County ARES Early Autumn Swapfest, Madison, WI. At Fast Forward Roller Skating and Skate Shop, 4649 Verona Road, (Hwy 151/18). Contact Dane County ARES, Inc., 810 Vernon Ave., Apt 4, Madison, WI 53714. (608) 222-3444.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1996.** Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs 1996 Computer Fair and Hamfest. Waukesha County Exposition Center in the Forum Building, Highways J and FT in Waukesha, WI. Contact KMRA Swapfest, PO Box 411, Waukesha, WI 53187-0411. Or call Ron at (414) 547-2219 or Andy at 549-0393.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1996.** Hamfest Minnesota & Computer Expo. St. Paul Civic Center, St. Paul MN. Contact: PO Box 5598, Hopkins, MN 55343. (612) 535-0637.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1996.** 6.91 Friendly Fest from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Waukesha County

Expo Center Forum. Amateur exams. handicapped accessible, refreshments, door prizes, etc. For additional information call Burt, N9VBI at (414) 328-0535 or write Milwaukee Repeater Club, P.O. Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1996.** Fox Cities Hamfest, Starlite Club, Hwy 55. North of Kaukana, WI. Contact: Chad Pennings, N9PRC, 318 E. Brewster St., Appleton, WI 54911. (414) 954-1229.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 1997.** West Allis ARC, 25th Annual Midwinter Swapfest. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Contact: WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 1997.** SEWFARS SWAPFEST, Waukesha County Expo Center, Waukesha, WI. Contact: SEWFARS, P.O. Box 102, Delafield, WI 53018. (414) 650-0724.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 1997.** Tri-County ARC Hamfest at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Activity Center, Hwy. 18 West, Jefferson, WI. Contact: TCARC, W9MQB, 711 East St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538. (414) 563-6502 evenings.

**SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1997.** South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest. American Legion Post 434, Oak Creek, WI. Contact (414) 762-3235.

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them. We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with other events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebneter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.

## Badger State Smoke Signals

*Amateur Radio  
Education and Information*

**CHAIRMAN:** Kenneth A. Ebneter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Telephone (608) 742-3560.

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**EDITORIAL BOARD:** Ken Ebneter, K9EN; Dave Knaus, WA9POV; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

### Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$12.00
2 years	(24 issues - save \$2.00)	\$22.00
3 years	(36 issues - save \$4.00)	\$32.00

Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebneter, K9EN.

### When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1.

The only exception is for participating clubs. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For

example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections should be sent to Ken Ebneter.

Editorial material, photographs, feature articles, display ads, and exchange papers should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebneter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebneter.

Swapfest ads should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Jim Decker.

### Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN. This newspaper is produced by volunteer Radio Amateurs, and is non-profit. This newspaper is mailed from Portage, WI 53901. *Badger State Smoke Signals* is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-profit organization.

### Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

## Club Meetings



Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the November 1995 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following are additions or changes since that listing.

#### FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

The Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc. meets the last Wednesday of the month at the Bank One building in Germantown, WI at Pilgrim and Mequon Roads. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. !GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!

#### YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (BARABOO)

Days rotate: The meeting dates for 1996 are Aug 14, Sep 12, Oct 15, Nov 13, with the Holiday party scheduled for Friday December 13, 1996. All meetings will be at the Baraboo Civic Center, room 14, unless otherwise noted. Starting time for the monthly club meeting is 7:30 p.m.. The program start time after the meeting is 8:00 p.m., with a one hour limit.

#### WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Third Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. in room 114 of the Wood County Courthouse. Talk-in on 146.79 for entry into the building.

#### THE WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14:** The Wisconsin Association of Repeaters will meet at the Chalet Motel Restaurant at 10401 N. Port Washington Road in Mequon. There will be a Dutch treat lunch at noon, with the meeting to begin at 1 p.m. Anyone with an interest in repeater coordination is welcome to attend. (Thanks Nels Harvey, WA9JOB).

# The Test Point



## Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

August 03, 1996	Oshkosh, WI
August 03, 1996	Pewaukee, WI
August 03, 1996	St. Paul, MN
August 08, 1996	Apple Valley, MN
August 10, 1996	Blaine, MN
August 10, 1996	Bloomington, MN
August 10, 1996	Madison, WI
August 10, 1996	Oak Creek, WI
August 10, 1996	Redgranite, WI
August 17, 1996	Cottage Grove, MN
August 17, 1996	Loves Park, IL
August 17, 1996	Rhineland, WI
August 17, 1996	Northwoods Hamfest Franklin, WI
August 17, 1996	CARS Swapfest Eden Prairie, MN
August 20, 1996	Eden Prairie, MN
August 21, 1996	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
August 24, 1996	Onalaska, WI
	Riverland Hamfest Tomahawk, WI
August 31, 1996	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
August 31, 1996	Hayward, WI
August 31, 1996	Hayward Hamfest Fond Du Lac, WI
September 07, 1996	Oshkosh, WI
September 07, 1996	Racine, WI
September 07, 1996	St. Paul, MN
September 12, 1996	Apple Valley, MN
September 14, 1996	Appleton, WI
September 14, 1996	Blaine, MN
September 14, 1996	Bloomington, MN
September 14, 1996	Madison, WI
September 14, 1996	Oak Creek, WI
September 17, 1996	Eden Prairie, MN
September 18, 1996	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
September 21, 1996	Cottage Grove, MN
September 21, 1996	Loves Park, IL
September 21, 1996	Onalaska, WI
September 28, 1996	Tomahawk, WI
September 28, 1996	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
October 05, 1996	Oshkosh, WI
October 05, 1996	Racine, WI
October 05, 1996	St. Paul, MN
October 10, 1996	Apple Valley, MN
October 12, 1996	Blaine, MN
October 12, 1996	Bloomington, MN
October 12, 1996	Madison, WI
October 12, 1996	Marshfield, WI
October 12, 1996	Oak Creek, WI
October 12, 1996	KMRA Hamfest Waukesha, WI
October 13, 1996	Waukesha, WI
October 15, 1996	Eden Prairie, MN
October 16, 1996	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
October 19, 1996	Cottage Grove, MN
October 19, 1996	Loves Park, IL
October 19, 1996	Redgranite, WI
October 26, 1996	Tomahawk, WI
October 26, 1996	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
November 2, 1996	Waukesha, WI
	9.91 Hamfest Menomonee, WI
November 2, 1996	Menomonee, WI
November 3, 1996	Kaukauna, WI
	Fox Cities Swapfest Marshfield, WI
November 9, 1996	Marshfield, WI
November 30, 1996	Onalaska, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Oshkosh, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oak Creek, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Wed.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Wauwatosa, WI (MRAC)
(except December)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	
Quarterly	Marshfield, WI
(Second Saturday every third month.)	

Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

### GENERAL RULES

#### FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.05 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

#### MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC) OAK CREEK, WI

SECOND SATURDAY DATE: 1:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI.

THIRD WEDNESDAY DATES: At 6:30 p.m. at Village at Manor Park. (was Methodist Manor) 3023 S 84th St., (84th & Oklahoma) Milwaukee, WI.

LAST SATURDAY DATES: (except December): 9:00 a.m. at 7500 W. State St., Wauwatosa S&L, lower level, Wauwatosa, WI.

For Additional Information Contact: Jack Krause, (414) 774-6999 or call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine) or write Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE and two (2) good quality photocopies, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$5.00 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: print the grade of license you are applying for, and your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, at the addresses shown above.

#### BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Amateur exams: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Commercial exams: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Unless otherwise noted at WMVS-TV studios, MATC Downtown campus in the C building starting at 9:00 a.m. for commercial exams and Amateur exams at 1:00 p.m. the same day. The address is 1036 N. 8th Street, Milwaukee. Enter at the North West entrance of C Building. Walk-ins are welcome. To register in advance, send a post card with your name, test or tests you wish to take, date you wish to take., your call sign, address and telephone number to Badger Examiners, Gary J. Sharbuno, WI9M, 5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53223. Telephone (414) 355-0237.

Also available FCC General Radio Telephone Commercial exams. Fees are \$5.90 for the Amateur Radio exams and \$35.00 for the commercial exams.

#### MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$5.90, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, NZ9B

#### RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 885-8551.

#### FOND DU LAC, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Saturday, September 7, 1996 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon at Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac, WI. Contact: Doug Schultz, (N9EZF) at (414) 922-3038.

#### TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct. Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

#### APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

#### MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)

#### KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test session in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Candidates check in between 8 and 9 a.m. with testing starting at 9 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. Contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (414) 730-0967, or Larry Siebers, KD9IA (414) 730-0967.

#### MARSHFIELD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Held at St. Joseph Hospital, 611 St. Joseph Ave. On 9 November in the 1 West classroom located adjacent to the Westwood Cafeteria on the main floor of the hospital. Use the main entrance or any other entrance and follow the signs to the cafeteria. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with testing starting at 9:00 a.m. Talk in on the 147.18 Marshfield repeater. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Walter Friant, WB0KIN, 2310 Wallonie Drive, Marshfield, WI 54449 (715) 387-3870.

#### PEWAUKEE, WI

Kettle Moraine Exam Team. Held at the Pewaukee WCTC Campus Science Building, Room S101. 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Contact Al Johnson, AA7CS. (414) 568-0836.

#### REDGRANITE, WI (W5YI and ARRL VEC)

OUR TEST ARE NO LONGER MONTHLY. The Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (RAW) club of Redgranite will hold their 1996 test sessions on Saturday, August 10 and October 19. These are held at the Civic Center in Redgranite, 202 Pine River Road, one block from Highway 21. Registration at 0830 sharp, with testing at 0900 sharp. Bring two forms of identification, \$6.50 per test, and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, Licenses, etc. Breakfast is at the Curve Inn, on highway 21. All are welcome. For further information, please contact Mark Miller, AA9RC at 231-1662 or Terry Witt, AA9BA at (414) 685-5018.

#### OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro City Hall. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Walk-ins OK. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, KB9FA, at (414) 235-0987, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

#### ONALASKA, WI

On behalf of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club's VE team and Bill Wood, KE9XQ team Chairman, we announce the amateur radio exam schedule for 1996. The sessions will be held at 7 O'clock P.M. at the Onalaska Community Center, 515 Quincy Street in Onalaska WI:

Saturday, September 21st; and Saturday, November 30th.

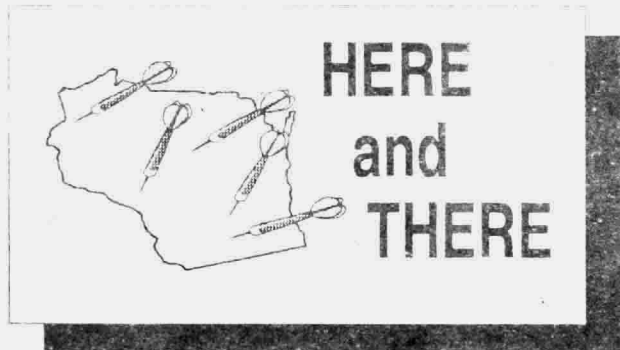
There will be sessions conducted Friday, August 23rd and Saturday, August 24th at 8 O'clock A.M. at the Onalaska OMNI Center at 7 O'clock P.M. The OMNI Center is located on Riders Club Street in Onalaska, WI. These tests are in concurrence with Hamfest, Computer Expo, and Antique Radio Show held on Saturday, August 24th at the Onalaska OMNI Center.

The Riverland Amateur Radio Club Volunteer Examiner Team is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League. The team is field-stocked, and walk-in candidates are welcome. The team does appreciate advance registration, especially for license exams for the General, Advanced, and Extra classes. We will allow a retest on a time available basis, provided a second exam fee is paid. We use multiple choice format answers for the Morse Code exams.

For further information or to preregister for an exam session, please call Bill Wood, KE9XQ at (608) 788-8571. You may also contact Karl Simonson, KB9EQI at (608) 526-9413 or via packet: KB9EQI@AA9AW.EN43KM.WI.USA.NA

(continued on page 15)





## Greg Godsey, KF4BDY: what really happened

Ever since young Greg Godsey, KF4BDY, of Hopkinsville, Kentucky, was arrested in his hometown on charges related to his hobby, rumors about the case have abounded on the air and via the Internet. Godsey, an articulate and soft-spoken youth who turned 17 in June, says he'd like to set the record straight.

Godsey was detained by Hopkinsville Police on May 11 and charged with carrying a scanner that could receive police radio frequencies, with impersonating a public official and with disorderly conduct. His Radio Shack HTX-202 2-meter transceiver was confiscated, and he was bound over for trial on June 4. ARRL Regulatory Information Branch Supervisor Norman Bliss, WA1CCQ, said at the time of Godsey's arrest that the Kentucky law exempts equipment that is capable of receiving police frequencies when it's in the possession of a licensed Amateur Radio operator. Furthermore, the HTX-202 does not have expanded receive or transmit capabilities.

In court on June 4, the judge dismissed the scanner charge, and Godsey's H-T was returned to him. Godsey said the scanner charge was dropped after his lawyer presented documentary evidence that the radio could not operate outside Amateur Radio frequencies. The other charges were continued until June 27, but that court appearance subsequently was postponed because the arresting officer was out of town in a training program. He has since returned to his regular duties. Godsey said he'd learned from an inside source that the arresting officer was placed on "desk duty" for a week after he arrested the teenager, but he did not know if this was related to the handling of his case.

Godsey said he returned his H-T to Tandy after he discovered that the battery case had been damaged, apparently while the unit was in police custody. He said he wanted to see if it could be repaired, and he wanted additional assurances from Tandy that the unit could not be operated outside the ham bands "just in case" the question were to arise again in court.

Godsey's parents, Gary and Fredericka Godsey, say their son has never been in trouble before. They've hired a new attorney to handle future action in the case.

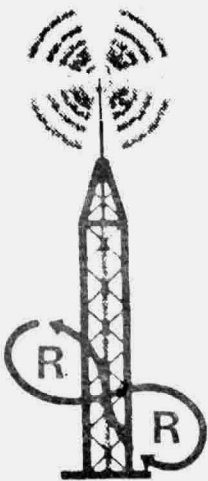
Godsey said he's not sure why he was charged with impersonating a public servant or with disorderly conduct, but he thinks the former charge could be related to his activities as the emergency coordinator for Christian County, Kentucky, a position he continues to hold. "I'm still plugging away," he said. (It was erroneously reported in The ARRL Letter, QST and elsewhere that Godsey had resigned as EC.

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## Staffing the Swapfest Table



Bette Kratz, WD9DLR, was captured on T-Max 400 film as she looked after the items on a table at the Madison Swapfest in March. Bette is very active in the Adams County Amateur Radio Club.

He did turn over his net control duties to another ARES member after his radio was taken away, however.) When the officer stopped him, "I showed him my ARES identification card," said Godsey, who was riding a bicycle at the time. He said his arrest came after some youngsters stopped him and said their father wanted to speak with him. Godsey said he'd never met the people before and has no idea why they called the police. An enthusiastic ham who got his ticket less than a year ago, Godsey said he enjoys "talking up" ham radio to people he meets in and around his home town, located in farm country about an hour's drive from Paducah. Godsey is home-schooled and is the equivalent of a high-school junior.

Godsey says it's frustrating for him to hear the rumors and distortions on the air. As a Technician Plus licensee, "I can't get up there [on HF] to dispel the rumors," he said. He has attempted to correct

## SECTION MANAGER'S NOTES



Richard R. Regent, K9GDF  
5003 South 26th Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53221



This is my last column after 12 years as SM. Thanks for your support and cooperation. Special gratitude to Wisconsin Nets Assn for a beautiful certificate of appreciation.

Fox Hunt by Racine Megacycle Club is September 13.

Good Sam Ham Rally picnic in Superior is September 15 in Multiuse Facility Building, with talk-in on 34/94.

September 22 Dane County ARES Early Autumn Swapfest in Madison at Fast Roller Skating and Skate Shop, highways 151 and 18.

New Milwaukee RAC officers: pres. W9PWG, vp WB9BW, secy WB9LNU, treas W9MOT.

Exams: September 7 Racine, Oshkosh; September 14 Appleton, Madison, Oak Creek, Redgranite; September 18 Milwaukee; September 21 Onalaska; September 28 Tomahawk, Wauwatosa.

Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day is September 21.

*Activity of the month:* Plan on participation in October Simulated Emergency Test, October 21-22. Contact local Emergency Coordinator.

Last chance to let me know if you would like a free list of Wisconsin's 128 nets or 165 clubs.

Thought of the month: *Enthusiasm is like a ripple in the water . . . it spreads.* □

misstatements he sees posted on the Internet, however.

His arrest has had at least one positive impact. "ARES membership has been going up since this happened," Godsey reports. The local ARES chapter now has 22 members in a county with 130 to 150 hams.

- The ARRL Letter, 7/12/96

# Field Day 1996

By Richard Regent, K9GDF  
5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221

Thanks to everyone in Wisconsin who participated in ARRL Field Day, 1996. The weather was great, new equipment was tested and the following FD messages reached me:

Group	Call	Location	Operators/ARES
Calumet County ARES	KN9P/9	Ledge Park Chilton	10/10
Central WI RA	W9NN	Junction City	7/7
Falls ARC	KC9CI	Menomonee Falls Park	9/7
Four Lakes ARC	W9JZ	Madison	37/5
Hidden Valley ARC	NX9V	SW WI Voc. School Fennimore	16/7
	N9TD	Big Flats	2/7
PBR Please FD Team	N9AU	Concord Campground Concord	4/7
Rock River RC	W9CTH	Beaver Dam	24/22
Watertown ARC	N9HR	Walton Grounds Watertown	7/10
West Allis ARC	W9FK	Crystal Ridge Franklin	11/2
Wisconsin Rapids ARC	W9DQA	WI Rapids	22/14
W/K	N9AW	Oak Creek	6/4
Yellow Thunder ARC	WB9FDZ	Owen Park Columbia Co.	2/0

Of course there never is any guarantee that Field Day messages will actually reach me, but if your group originated a message properly and sent it by packet radio, through the NTS or by other means, you get credit. Field Day is fun, and has activities where everyone can practice by handling messages to be prepared for emergency communications.

Detailed results of Field Day scores will be in QST soon. Hope you learned a little more about Amateur communications or enjoyed being with club members this year.

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## Critics of CB use turn up the squelch in Beloit

Critics of citizen-band transmitters that interfere with television reception and telephones hope a decision by the Beloit City Council will inspire similar action by the Wisconsin Legislature.

The council unanimously approved a measure this week that allows police to cite CB operators whose equipment is more powerful than authorized by the Federal Communications Commission.

High-wattage CB transmitters can foul up telephones, TV and electronic appliances. But local CB radio users said they operate at the FCC-allowed output level of 4 watts.

(Copied verbatim without permission of the Wisconsin State Journal (Madison, WI), from the July 19, 1996 issue.)

## RMC-sponsored Caribbean cruise open to all

The Racine Megacycle Club is working with Cruise Commanders in Racine to put together a 7-night Southern Caribbean amateur radio cruise beginning Nov. 8, 1997. We hope other amateurs from our state will join us on this fun-filled vacation. We will be sailing on a new Royal Caribbean ship called *Rhapsody of the Seas* from San Juan to Aruba, Curacao, St. Maarten, and St. Thomas.

Cheryl, WS9P, who works as a sales agent for Cruise Commanders, is mailing information to the clubs listed in *Badger State Smoke Signals*. Watch for your mailing and share it at your next meeting. She will also do promotions at hamfests (Racine Hamfest is July 28th!) so watch for her there. Keep in mind that the price includes your air fare from Milwaukee; however, air fare is available from other cities -- be sure to ask!

If you go, make sure you read and understand the regulations involved with operating aboard a ship or on the Islands. You will need to be responsible for getting reciprocal licenses (the ship is a Norwegian registry/some Islands are Dutch), and you may call ARRL for the necessary paper work. Rob (KF9ZT), our club president, may also be contacted for information. Do NOT apply for a reciprocal license until next year since they often are good from January to December.

We have contacted RCCL about operating on board ship with reciprocal licenses. There seems to be no problem using VHF or UHF equipment. We may be allowed to run one HF station using our club equipment, and with that we hope to make contacts with "home" and run a special event station honoring this new ship. We'd also like to schedule a meeting with radio room personnel and maybe try a short transmitter hunt. Be sure you register ANY radio equipment with customs before leaving home! Whether or not you can travel with us, we'd appreciate suggestions about other radio activities we could organize.

A limited amount of space is being held at a special pricing for this trip. If you and your spouse, friend, or significant "other" want to sail with us, please send in the blue registration form and the \$250 per person deposit to Cheryl by August 27th. If you need a copy of the form or have questions about the trip, please leave your name, complete address, and phone number for Cheryl at Cruise Commanders (1-800-255-7720) or at her home office (414-632-2985) so the information can be sent to you. We will keep the radio community updated on this trip through BSSS -- watch for articles under Racine Megacycle Club.

Our club is excited about offering this once-in-a-lifetime vacation to you, and we hope you're with us to say Bon Voyage November 8, 1997!

No endorsement or warranty is expressed or implied by publication of this announcement in *Badger State Smoke Signals*. We do not have room for the registration form in this issue. We suggest you contact Cheryl, WS9P, at the phone above if you are interested in this cruise. ☐

## A train of fun for everyone



Al Johnson, AA7CS, at left, doing double duty as HF radio operator and reporter for a radio station, caught up with Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson for a quick "photo op" on the first leg of the train's journey between Baraboo and Lodi. Jolly the clown hopped into the center of the frame.

- Photo by Jim Romelfanger/K9ZZ

## Last gasp for Cycle 22?

Solar prognosticator Tad Cook, KT7H, asks: Is this a last gasp for Cycle 22? Solar activity recently took a big and unexpected jump, with solar flux peaking at 83.6 on July 9, and the average sunspot number up almost 6 points beyond the previous week.

Solar flares around the first of the month produced slow-moving protons which affected the A and K indices around July 3, 4 and 5. The highest K index was 4. A later flare disturbed conditions on July 12 and 13 during the IARU HF World Championship.

Cook predicts the solar flux will again rise above 70 after July 28. The next solar rotation will probably bring the current active region around again to bump the solar flux up around 80 after August 1.

Sunspot numbers for July 4 through 10 were 12, 12, 0, 27, 42, 44 and 36, respectively, with a mean of 24.7. The 10.7-cm flux was 69.1, 68.6, 68.2, 71.9, 81.6, 83.6, and 79.8, respectively, for a mean of 74.7.

- The ARRL Letter, 7/19/96

## Amateur Radio Awareness Day is September 21

Amateur Radio Awareness Day, September 21, 1996, offers the perfect opportunity to drum up media interest in local ham radio activities and spread the word in your community. Anything goes for this PR event.

What can you do? Well, you can write and distribute news release about Amateur Radio

## On the Lighter Side

By Bob Beasley, K6BJH



IT'S STRICTLY A NOSTALGIA THING --- IT'S A KENWOOD TS 940 IN A HARVEY-WELLS BAND-MASTER CABINET

## Submarine Special Event Station

W9DK, the ManCoRad Radio Club will operate from aboard the WWII submarine USS Cobia Saturday, August 17 from 1400Z to 2200Z, commemorating the 50th anniversary of its decommissioning. Suggested frequencies: on or about 7.250, 14.250, and 21.350. For a QSL, send a #10 SASE to ManCoRad Club, P.O. Box 204, Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204.

Awareness Day and invite the public to a ham radio demonstration. Set up your equipment in a classroom or on the town green or local shopping mall for maximum visibility. Press kits and other aids to help you promote ham radio for Awareness Day in your community are available from ARRL's Public Relations Office. Contact Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY, Media Relations Assistant, 860-594-0328; e-mail jgagne@arrl.org.

- The ARRL Letter, 7/19/96

## Shuttle-Mir mission launch postponed until September

NASA managers have decided to replace the reusable solid-rocket motors on the space shuttle Atlantis, delaying until mid-September the planned July 31, 1996, launch to rendezvous with the Russian space station Mir. STS-79 will carry the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment, or SAREX. Atlantis' motors are being replaced because technicians disassembling the motors of the previous shuttle mission, STS-78, observed that hot gas had seeped into J-joints in the field joints of the motors.

STS-79 now is set to take off early on the morning of September 15, 1996, for a nine-day flight. This, the fourth Mir docking mission, will use SAREX configuration "M," which is FM voice, using the shuttle-Mir 2-meter radio.

Three schools -- two in the US and one in

Continued on page 6

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August 1996

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# The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR  
105 Martin Drive  
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654  
(414) 284-9346  
WB9RQR @ N9PBY EN63BLWI.USA.NA  
SKAPLAN @ POST.ITS.MCW.EDU

This month I would like to express admiration for the software that gets our computers going. Many of the things that happen when we turn on the power are hidden from our view; they happen quickly and in the background and we really are not aware of them. Nevertheless, there is a fairly complicated series of happenings. A couple of years ago while reading, I jotted down some notes and made a flow diagram of the boot process. That is the subject, and most of the substance, of this article.

There are at least 16 major steps a computer must take after the switch is flipped on, before we see the C:\ prompt on the screen. If we divided each step into sub-steps, it would add up to many more, easily filling all the pages of this month's publication. Even more striking is that most of the steps occur well ahead of loading COMMAND.COM, the traffic cop that takes charge of

everything, including watching your keyboard to see if you press a key. Note that COMMAND.COM loaded very late in the process, down at the bottom of the flow chart, just after CONFIG.SYS is loaded and before AUTOEXEC.BAT is run.

That all this happens so quickly and efficiently is a tribute to the gals and guys that wrote the program code for the boot process and operating system. They wrote the programs in assembly language, a tedious process using a language that is just one step away from the binary language (zeros and ones) that the computer itself "thinks" with. The computer translates the human-written assembly language instructions to binary, so that it can understand the commands it is being asked to follow. The same translation process occurs with programs written in PASCAL or C or BASIC. These higher level languages are much easier for us humans to understand and work with, but the programmers who designed and wrote the boot and operating system software chose assembly language because it results in much smaller, efficient programs that run much faster than programs written in higher level languages. Had they chosen BASIC instead, it might take 5 or 6 minutes for the C:\ prompt to appear after turning on the power, instead of a couple of seconds. Think of that next time you flip the switch to the ON position! Happy computing.

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Large, self-cleaning wiping contact gives excellent low-resistance connection without arcing or contact burning.

A solid 1/4 inch brass shaft with self-align bearings gives smooth non-binding rotation.

Some competing "legal limit" tuners use a lossy, low Q, solid core with erratic electrical contacts and have potentially damaging self-resonant frequencies. This can cause excessive heating and can destroy the core.

### Massive Transmitting Capacitors

Look inside ... you'll see two super heavy duty transmitting variable capacitors that can handle 6000 volts. Extra wide (0.27 inch) stator plate spacing gives you arc-free operation.

Specially shaped plates give low minimum capacitance when unmeshed. This and a hefty 250 pf maximum give you an extremely wide matching range -- even on 160 and 10 Meters.

The nearest competing "legal limit" tuner has variable capacitors physically much smaller than the MFJ-989C's. Theirs is rated at 4500 volts -- a full 25% less than the MFJ-989C. Theirs is more likely to arc -- not what you want in a "legal limit" tuner!

### Super Antenna Switch

The MFJ-989C super heavy duty antenna switch is made of two individual ceramic wafers wired in parallel. Extra wide spaced, heavy duty contacts handle extreme voltages and currents. We've never burned one up!

You can select two coax antennas (directly or through tuner), balanced line/random wire, or built-in dummy load.

### 3 KW Current Balun

MFJ's super heavy duty 3 KW current balun for balanced lines uses two giant 2 1/2 inch toroid cores. It's wound with Teflon® wire connected to high voltage glazed ceramic feedthrough insulators.

The MFJ-989C lets you safely operate high power into balanced feedlines without core saturation or voltage breakdown.

Some "legal limit" tuners have inferior voltage baluns with smaller diameter toroid cores and use soft plastic feedthrough insulators that can arc and melt.

More reasons why the MFJ-989C is the world's finest 3 KW tuner ...

### Built-in Dummy Load

A full-size 300 watt non-inductive 50 ohm dummy load is built into the MFJ-989C.

You'll find it handy for transmitter tuning, testing and repairing your rig, setting power level, adjusting your mic gain and more.

Some "legal limit" tuners don't have a built-in dummy load. They want you to pay for an external dummy load that just gets in your way.

### Lighted Cross-Needle Meter

MFJ's lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter lets you monitor SWR, forward and reflected power simultaneously. Read both peak and average power in two power ranges.

### Sleek and Compact

The compact MFJ-989C slides right into your operating position -- you'll hardly know it's there. It's just 10 3/4 x 4 1/2 x 15 inches. Do you really want a bulky "legal limit" tuner that's bigger than your amplifier?

### Superior Cabinet

The MFJ-989C's premium, low-profile all-aluminum cabinet has a sub-chassis that adds strength and RFI protection.

Every cabinet is chemically treated and has a tough, scratch-proof vinyl cladding -- not paint that can scratch or chip off. You won't find a tougher, longer-lasting finish anywhere.

Detailed logging scales and legends are permanently silk screened on real aluminum front and back panels -- they aren't decals or glued-on paper strips that can peel off.

### Superior Construction

Every MFJ-989C uses PEM nuts (not self-tapping screws), wing-nut for ground post (not a cheap nut), fire-retardant epoxy glass PC board (not canvas based), heavy gauge wire throughout (not small gauge), locking compound on nuts/bolts (not loose hardware).

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## Here and There

Continued from page 5

England -- have been confirmed for SAREX QSOs during STS-79: Andover Middle School in Andover, Kansas; Immaculate Conception Elementary School in Celina, Ohio, and The Royal School for Girls in Surrey, England.

Three hams will be aboard STS-79. Jay Apt, N5QWL, a mission specialist, has flown on three previous shuttle missions and used Amateur Radio on each flight. Carl Walz, KC5TIE, participated in SAREX from Columbia during STS-65 in July 1994, before earning his ham ticket. Making his fifth shuttle mission is John Blaha, KC5TZQ, a mission specialist. During STS-79, Blaha will switch places with astronaut Shannon Lucid, and remain with the Mir space station for 5 months. Lucid has been aboard Mir since March 1996. Other STS-79 crew members include Commander William Readdy, Pilot Terrence Wilcutt and Mission Specialist Thomas Akers.

See the ARRL SAREX Web page at <http://www.arrl.org/sarex/> for more information.

- The ARRL Letter, 7/19/96

## Ken Cameron, KB5AWP, to leave astronaut corps

Shuttle astronaut and Marine Corps Colonel Ken Cameron, KB5AWP, will leave NASA on August 5 to pursue other career interests. Cameron -- a three-time shuttle flight veteran who became an astronaut in 1984 -- will join Hughes Training Inc, as Executive Director of Houston Operations.

"Ken's contributions to the astronaut office and to NASA have been valuable," said David C. Leestma, director of Flight Crew Operations. "He was instrumental in setting up the support system for NASA astronauts training in Russia. We wish him well in his new career." Cameron first flew as pilot on STS-37 in 1991 and served as commander on two subsequent missions, STS-56 in 1993 and STS-74 in 1995.

- The ARRL Letter, 7/19/96

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## Ask Elmer

**Q. How many image standards are there and which are most popular?**

A. There are about 50 standards. Two dominate the Web: Graphics Interchange Format (GIF) and Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG). GIF has 256 colors, including one color which can be substituted as "invisible" to allow background color or images to be seen as through a window. JPEG has 16 million colors.

**Q. Is there anything new that can replace a mouse?**

A. There is a small pressure-sensitive pad that translates finger movements into an exact screen location. Move, click, highlight or drag can also be handled by a new device that is called Point Pad and retails for \$74.99.

**Q. How can I rename a Windows 3.1 program group?**

A. Click on the icon for that group, select File menu and choose Properties. The old description line name should now be highlighted. Type your new program group name and finally click OK.

**Q. Why has Iomega Corp. stock been so speculative and had gyrations in share price?**

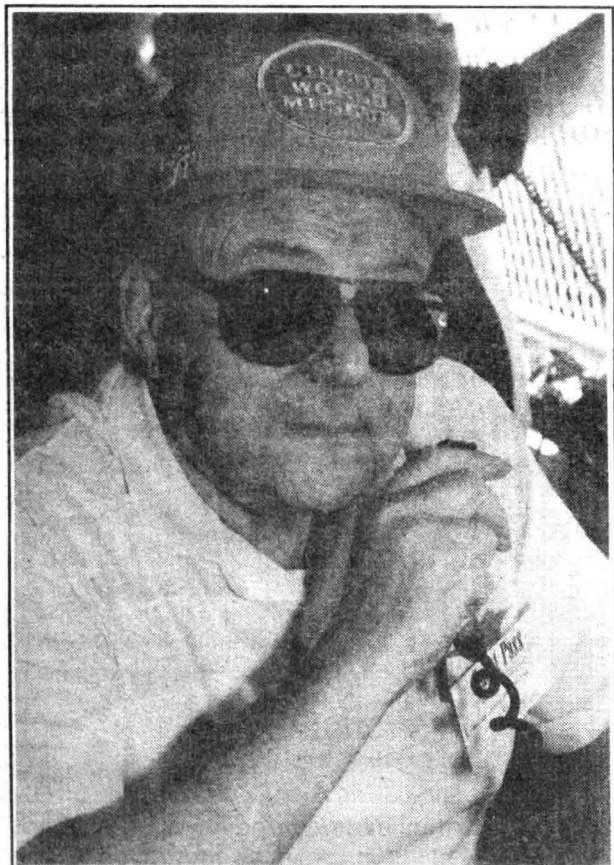
A. Iomega makes the Zip drive, an external portable drive with removable disks that can store 100 Megabytes of information. One zip drive disk can store about 70 times the 1.44 Megabyte using the 3.5 inch disks. Iomega's aggressive marketing strategy gets investors excited, rumors of product problems sometimes creates financial panics.

**Q. Where can I find Wisconsin business information on the Web?**

A. Try World-Wide Web Servers <http://www.inmarket.com/wisconsin/>, Wisconsin Information and Web Sites <http://infomad.com/wisconsin/>, or U. W. Madison - Graduate School <http://www.wisc.edu/grad>.

Do you have a question or a problem? Ask Elmer! Send your questions (no telephone calls, please) to "Ask Elmer," 5003 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221. ☐

## Crew Chief for the Great Circus Train Ham Radio Crew



Bob Goldstein, K9KJT, Milwaukee, works hard every year coordinating the ARES radio crew which keeps the train in constant contact with the train's Milwaukee office. A patch is set up between 2 meters and a landline to the office. Hard-working and never griping: That's Bob! ☐

## Wisconsin Amateur Internet Addresses

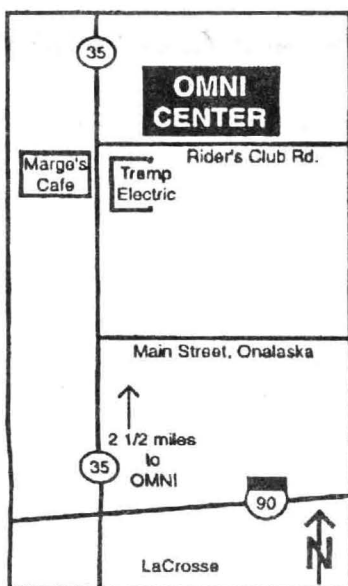
CALL	NAME	E-MAIL/WEB URL
	Dane Co. ARES Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club	<a href="http://www.danenet.wicip.org/~ares">www.danenet.wicip.org/~ares</a> <a href="mailto:mceraso@mail.edp.net">mceraso@mail.edp.net</a> <a href="http://www.edp.net/~mceraso/ECARC.html">www.edp.net/~mceraso/ECARC.html</a> <a href="mailto:wa9pov@execpc.com">wa9pov@execpc.com</a> <a href="http://www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/warac.html">www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/warac.html</a>
	West Allis Radio Amateur Club	<a href="mailto:n9unr@execpc.com">n9unr@execpc.com</a> <a href="http://www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/war.html">www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/war.html</a> <a href="mailto:kb9byp@execpc.com">kb9byp@execpc.com</a> <a href="mailto:menzelw@wctc.net">menzelw@wctc.net</a> <a href="http://www.wctc.net/~menzelw">www.wctc.net/~menzelw</a> <a href="mailto:asplind@gabby.mfldclin.edu">asplind@gabby.mfldclin.edu</a> <a href="mailto:ley@uwstout.edu">ley@uwstout.edu</a> <a href="mailto:ke4fe@newnorth.net">ke4fe@newnorth.net</a> <a href="mailto:jklinc@centuryinter.net">jklinc@centuryinter.net</a> <a href="mailto:muzikman@waun.tdsnet.com">muzikman@waun.tdsnet.com</a> <a href="mailto:tcweeden@execpc.com">tcweeden@execpc.com</a> <a href="mailto:mwerner@waun.tdsnet.com">mwerner@waun.tdsnet.com</a> <a href="mailto:nhar@execpc.com">nhar@execpc.com</a> <a href="mailto:wrjones@mail.wiscnet.net">wrjones@mail.wiscnet.net</a> <a href="mailto:wa9pov@execpc.com">wa9pov@execpc.com</a> <a href="http://www.execpc.com/~wa9pov">www.execpc.com/~wa9pov</a> <a href="mailto:wvincent@execpc.com">wvincent@execpc.com</a> <a href="mailto:tcmlepc@waun.tdsnet.com">tcmlepc@waun.tdsnet.com</a> <a href="mailto:n9unr@execpc.com">n9unr@execpc.com</a> <a href="mailto:deanjeski@aol.com">deanjeski@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:wernerg@gabby.mfldclin.edu">wernerg@gabby.mfldclin.edu</a> <a href="mailto:smokesigs@baraboo.com">smokesigs@baraboo.com</a>
	Wisconsin Association of Repeaters	
KB9BYP	Jeff Schmeichel	
KA9D	William G. Menzel	
N9DXZ	Dave Asplin	
NX9F	Jim Ley	
KE4FE	Gary Day	
KA9GCW	Jim Kline	
N9GHZ	Mike Schoenfuss	
WJ9H	Tom Weeden	
KB9IQL	Marty Werner	
WA9JOB	Nels Harvey (WAR Chairman)	
N9PHS	Wes Jones	
WA9POV	Dave Knaus	
N9TNW	Bill Vincent	
N9UBQ	Roland Sacho	
N9UNR	Dave Barrow (WAR Freq. Coord.)	
AD9W	Dean Andrewjeski	
WB9WBN	Gerald Werner	
K9ZZ	Jim Romelfanger	

Updated 06/10/96  
Complete listing.

Note that e-mail addresses and Web URLs are case sensitive.

Send additions and changes to [wa9pov@execpc.com](mailto:wa9pov@execpc.com).

This list is also available at [www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/bsslist.html](http://www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/bsslist.html).



VE EXAMS WILL BE HELD:  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 23rd at  
7 O'CLOCK P.M. and ALSO ON  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th at  
8 O'CLOCK A.M.

EASY UNLOADING  
SECURITY PROVIDED  
FRIDAY NIGHT  
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PRE-REGISTRATION  
AND PAYMENT  
APPRECIATED  
TABLES 8 ft. x 2 1/2 ft.

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lock up at 12 Midnight "sharp"  
Saturday unloading begins at 6 AM, to 8 AM

**Saturday, August 24, 1996**  
**8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

Admission..... \$4.00  
Flea market tables..... \$7.00 + Admission fee  
Flea market AC power ..... \$15.00  
Tailgating fee ..... \$7.00 + Admission fee

*FREE Parking & FREE Coffee*

*Commercial Vendors • Hourly Drawings*

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**Talk-In on 146.970/.370**

For more information call: Dick Low, K0JYB  
(608) 784-9176 • 1520 Nakomis Ave., LaCrosse, WI

## Registration Form

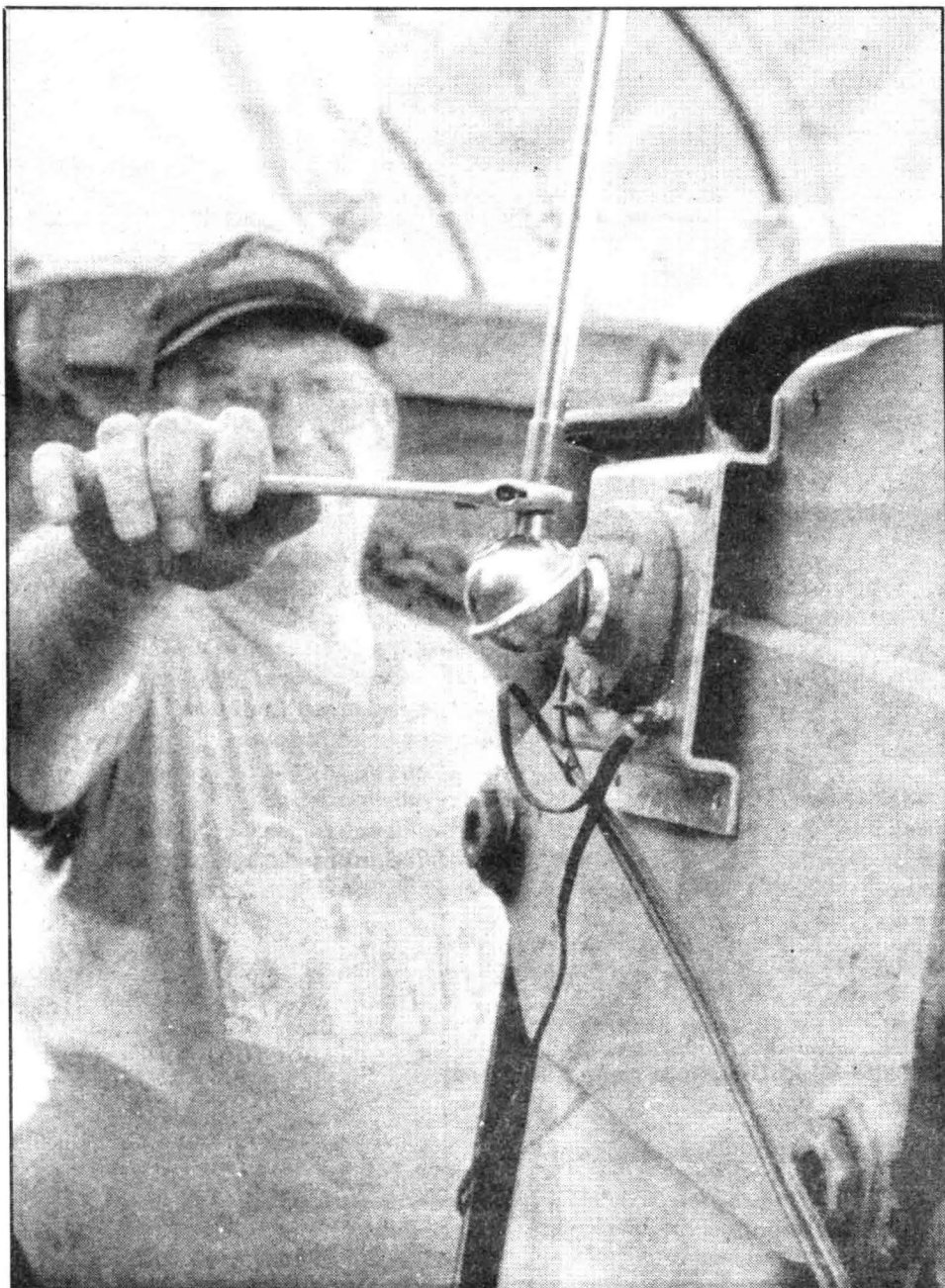
Make checks payable to: Riverland Amateur Radio Club • c/o Dick Low, K0JYB  
1520 Nakomis Avenue • LaCrosse, WI 54603

Admission..... \$ 4.00  
Flea market tables..... \$ 7.00  
Flea market AC power..... \$15.00  
Tailgating..... \$ 7.00  
TOTAL ENCLOSED..... \$

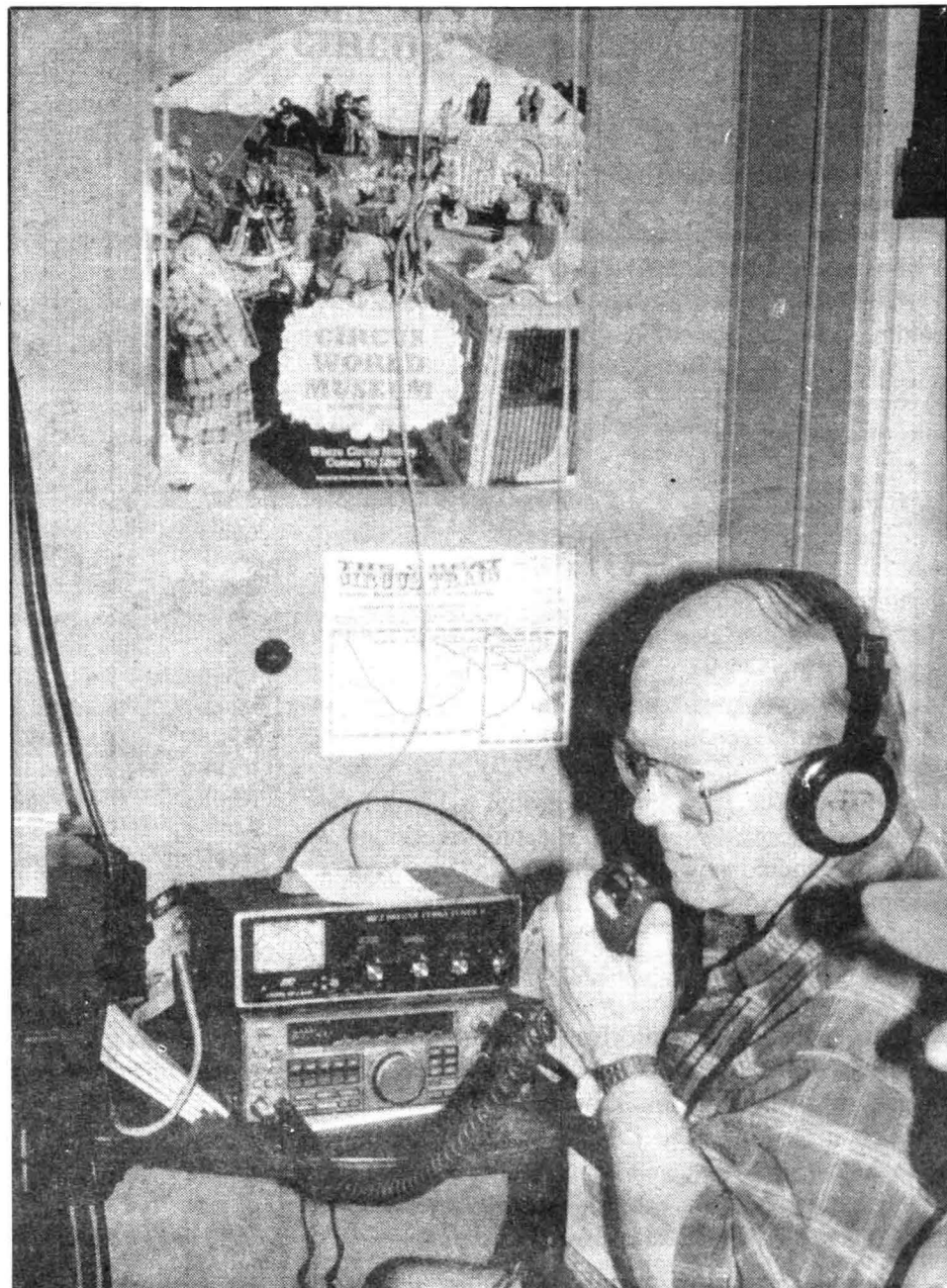
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



# The 1996 Great Circus Train's 226 Mile Journey: Telling the World by Amateur Radio



Al Johnson, AA7CS, Fort Atkinson, does final prep on the HF antenna for the Great Circus Train by verticalizing the dual-resonator Hustler mobile antenna after it was C-clamped to the usual Deutz tractor on the first flat car behind the coach with the HF rig and operators.



Don Evenson, K9JYX, Baraboo, rolls up the contacts on 20 and 40 meters (one band at a time, of course). When he turned the rig on just before the train pulled out of the Baraboo rail yard, stations were calling him. Don first operated from the train in 1966, thirty years ago.

**B**ARABOO - In 1966 Don Evenson, K9JYX, first operated an Amateur Radio station on the Great Circus Train, using a converted Motorola Twin V radio. Don communicated with a chase vehicle which then relayed the information to Milwaukee via 75 meters. The operation became sort of a circus of its own, with tubes failing and beer accidentally poured into the rig and so on. In 1996, Don observed the 30th anniversary of that first operation by operating both HF and 2 meters from the train. All who worked the station, K9JYX/Railroad Mobile, will receive a colorful certificate and other information after Don receives their 9 x 12" SASE with three units of U. S. postage attached. (Send that to 401 11th Street, Baraboo, WI 53913.)

After boarding on the morning of July 8, Don turned on the HF rig and stations were already calling on 14.240. After two days of operating by Don, Al Johnson, AA7CS and Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, about 230 contacts were made in 32 states, two Canadian provinces, two in Italy and one in Cuba. (I used my high school Spanish for that QSO, and managed to not embarrass myself. That leads to another story that we won't embarrass ourselves - and maybe you as well - by printing in this family publication.)

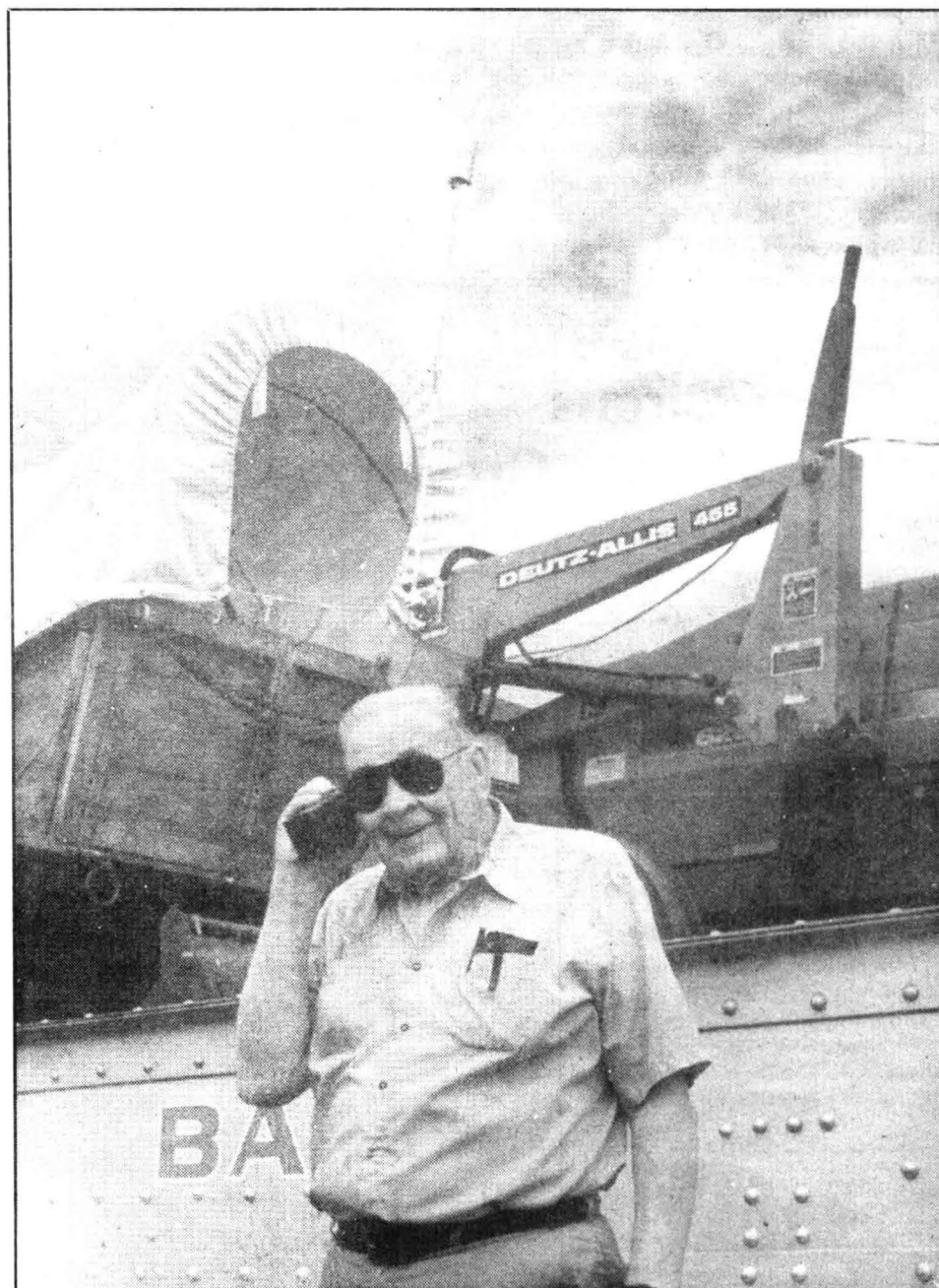
Just after departing the Baraboo rail yard, I was on my hands and knees digging through the spare "stuff" box for a roll of duct tape. Someone tapped me twice on the shoulder and said, "Hello down there." I kept digging and replied, "Hello up there, and who are you?". Then I looked up. "Oops, good morning Governor Thompson, it's good to see you again. Again, I was caught in an embarrassing position.

The ever-present duct tape came in handy. We used it in the donniker (circus for "toilet") to keep a leaky pipe under control. And one of the Dixieland jazz band's members used it to fix his tuba.

The 1994 and 1995 HF operations had the feedline running out the door to the observation platform at the rear of the car. And, it was duct taped to the walls and did not make a good looking installation, as well being subject to the hazard of being damaged by the constant opening of the door. This year, Don installed three bulkhead adapters in a window casing at the rear of the car. The cables were then dressed down the corner and beneath the old steam radiator pipes to the operating position. It looked neat - almost invisible.

Early the morning of July 9, before the train left from its layover in Horicon, the Rock River Radio Club was given the cook's tour by club member Mark Mullin, N9KQV, who also is an Engineer on the Wisconsin Southern Railroad and rode part of the trip in our coach, and Don, K9JYX. Among the RRRC folk were Section Manager Roy Pederson, K9FHI, and his wife Beryl, KA9BAC.

Bill Hommell III, KA9QFJ, Baraboo, loaned his TS-440S for the HF part of the operation and it did the job just fine. The two-meter rig was a Midland 13-510 and it did the job just fine, too. The double-resonator Hustler HF mobile antenna was C-clamped to the bucket support arms of a Deutz front end loader, the same as last year. The 2-meter 5/8 wave mag mount was mounted on the generator wagon in front of the front end loader.



The new route for 1996 took the train through Hartford, home of Sherm Carr, W9NGT. Sherm has worked with the ARES train crew and the train office in Milwaukee since this all started about 30 years ago. But, he has never seen the train up close and personal until this year. He was all smiles, just like all the other people who saw the colorful, half-mile long cascade of colors roll by. Sherm is standing near the train's 20/40 meter antenna, which he helped to engineer.



# Hamming from the Great Circus Train

Continued from page 8

The 1995 operation, on 20 and 40 meters, netted 55 contacts. This year, we more than quadrupled that total. Since we knew we had an operational HF station and antenna, after some experimenting the first two years, we gave this year's operation some additional advance publicity.

We'd like to break the 500-QSO mark next year. With the solar cycle looking like it is finally inching its way up from the bottom, we just might! Thanks to all who stood in line to work us. Hope to hear even more in 1997 from more of you!

Coming in September: One of the engineers for Wisconsin Southern is a ham. Read about Mark Mullen, N9KQV, in a special story about a ham with a

"I've worked airplane mobiles, aeronautical mobiles, maritime mobiles, all kinds of mobiles, but I've never worked a circus train mobile!"

- Overheard after an HF contact from the Great Circus Train

We extend our sincere thanks to all who helped us in this operation; there are so many, it is risky to try to list them all without leaving someone out. But you know who you are. It is a privilege to operate HF from the train; it provides an educational outreach about the train, the Great Circus Parade, and the Circus World Museum. Thanks especially to Trainmaster Dale Williams and Wagonmaster "Heavy" Burdick.

- Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ,  
with Don Evenson, K9JYX

"different" kind of occupation in a story by Don Evenson, K9JYX. More good reading coming up! □

## Getting teed off and having fun at it

By Nels Harvey, WA9JOB  
2104 W. County Line Rd., Mequon, WI 53092

June 15th was the day for the Vince Lombardi Charity Golf Tournament in Menomonee Falls this year, and Ted Willett, W9NHE, had already set up the base antenna on the North Hills Country Club clubhouse roof, like he has done for so many years. He had missed his usual visit to the Ozaukee Radio Club's meeting, the second Wednesday in May, so he actually got up early one Saturday, and joined the ORC breakfast bunch at Jalisco's Mexican Restaurant in Cedarburg, to promote participation in this annual event. The day promised to be an excellent day for a golf outing. Now, he only hoped some help would arrive to man the communications positions.

It's not often that I need to set my alarm any more since I retired, but it went off that morning in time to get me there on time for the sumptuous buffet breakfast. The parking permit let us park real close to the course, actually on the grass near the 9th hole. As I was guided to my parking spot, I noticed a couple familiar cars with callplates. I knew the regulars weren't going to let Ted down. The marshals were very friendly, and courteous as they directed me. It was later that I learned they had to park way across the street!

When we finished the brief organizational meeting, we all lined up for the buffet, and plates of steamy food were carried to the elegant dining area, with real linens, real china, real celebrities, comfy chairs with wheels, cups a guy can get his fingers in, waitresses to keep the coffee flowing, and a beautiful view of the course. After OD'ing on the coffee and an extra bagel, we charged out into the morning sunshine, ready to go to work.

Jim and Jason, N9NNA and N9NNB, manned the 1st and 10th tees. They reported to Hank Stoddard, the retired Channel 4 sports reporter, who has replaced Earl Gillespie, another retired sports announcer, and was sitting up on some scaffolding as event announcer. Using business band radios, they kept Hank up to date on who was teeing off, so he could announce them to the gallery. One time Hank couldn't raise Jason on the radio, so Jack, W9ATK, sent me over to the 10th tee with a fresh battery. I found Jason missing, with

the marshal guarding the radio gear. I took over, updated Hank, found the battery to be fine, and wondered what happened to Jason. A few minutes later, Jason returned with his footballs, and proudly showed me the Jerry Kramer autograph! He had chased Jerry all the way to the 10th green!

Ray, N9SQA, manned communications for the paramedic team. Paratech Ambulance provides an ambulance every year, and the Ozaukee Radio Club provides someone to act as communications liaison. After treating a possible fractured ankle and someone who was hit by a ball in the back of their leg, a call came in that some man had collapsed near the 5th hole, as far as possible from the clubhouse. Ray rode with the paramedics, trying to figure out where we were, with no map, or course knowledge. They found us, and the man who had collapsed, in very good time, thanks to radio communication. Fortunately the man had revived after being doused with water, and was standing around feeling foolish. He was checked out, and all was fine. Another disaster was averted. Our radios were invaluable!

The Ozaukee Radio Club has provided communications for 25 years now, at the Lombardi Golf Classic. This year, no lightning chased golfers off the course. Nobody ran over Mike Ditka's golfball like Skip, KA9DDN, did one year. The weather was wonderful, the crowd was great, the car raffle awarded some lucky man a new Buick, and the Lombardi Colon Cancer fund was replenished.

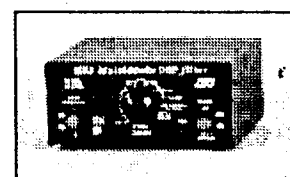
A few faces were missing this year. Charlie, WA9CPE, wasn't there at the 5th green reporting scores as in the past. Skip, KA9DDN, wasn't running over golfballs. They both had other commitments. Even others were missed and will never be back. They include Travis, W9VQD, Larry, KA9UBW, Russ, N9KHE, Ralph, WA9MLY, Joe, W9WQ, and probably several others that I've forgotten about.

The golf course has grass in the rough better than my yard. The fairways are better than most other greens, and the greens there are impeccable. The breakfast was great as always, and the scenery was tops. The Ozaukee Radio Club has a long tradition of service for this cause that we all can be proud of. □

## NEW PRODUCTS

### MFJ-781 DSP FILTER

MFJ Enterprises, Inc. is proud to announce the MFJ-781 DSP Filter. Now you can add DSP to any multimode only \$129.95!



The MFJ-781 will add "brick wall" DSP filtering to any TNC or multimode data controller for only \$129.95 retail.

Now you can copy signals buried in noise and QRM -- signals you can't even hear! The MFJ-781 will greatly improve all modes on any model TNC plus give you an arsenal of 100 incredibly sharp No\*Ring™ linear phase FIR filters. You can choose 20 filters to include on the front panel switch for easy one knob selection, plus much, much more!

The MFJ-781 Multimode DSP filter plugs between your transceiver and multimode and features input and output level controls and an accurate easy-to-use input level indicator. Under severe QRM, DSP will greatly improve copy of Packet, AMTOR, PACTOR, GTOR, Clover, RTTY, SSTV, WEFAX, FAX, CW -- nearly any digital mode.

The MFJ-781 lets you choose from 64 data filters with 16 Mark/Space pairs, 4 shifts, 4 baud rates. Interference is 40 dB down, 60 Hz outside passband. You also get 32 CW filters with 8 CW tones (300-1000 Hz) and 4 bandwidths (50-500 Hz). Customized filters are optimized for these specialized modes: VHF Packet, Clover, WEFAX, and SSTV. You get 45 dB down and 75 Hz outside passband.

MFJ-781 features Automatic Gain Control (AGC), that helps keep your audio level constant during signal fade. There is an ON/OFF/Bypass switch that provides a true bypass. It also has a built-in automatic self test for all digital circuitry and controls. 4 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 5 inches. Use 10-16 VDC or 110 VAC with optional MFJ-1312B, \$12.95. For MFJ-1278Bs, order the MFJ-780 plug-in DSP filter, \$99.95.

MFJ-781 comes with MFJ's now famous "no matter what" one year unconditional warranty. MFJ will repair or replace your unit (at our option) for one complete year. Technical assistance is available (toll-free) at 1-800-647-TECH (8324).

For more information, contact any MFJ dealer or MFJ Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 494, Miss. St., MS 39762 or call 601-323-5869, FAX: 601-323-6551, or order toll FREE 1-800-647-1800.

- MFJ news release

### Adams County Amateur Radio Club

#### SPRING HAMFEST

Sunday, June 1, 1997

Adams County Fairgrounds

West of Hwy. 13 on Cty. J • Friendship, WI

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. • Seller Setup at 7 a.m.

Talkin on 145.29 Adams Repeater

Adams County Amateur Radio Club P.O. Box 232  
Friendship, WI 53934 (608) 564-7887

Packet: N9TD-1 on 145.03

### SEWFARS SWAPFEST

Ham Radio • Electronics • Computers

Southeastern Wisconsin FM Amateur Repeater Society, Inc.

146.820 • 145.070 • 444.125

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 1997 • WAUKESHA COUNTY EXPO

CENTER ARENA • WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN

Mail S.A.S.E. • Make checks payable to SEWFARS

P.O. Box 102, Delafield, WI 53018

Phone (414) 789-1034 • Talkin 146.820

## More FCC ham applications available on the net and via FAX

FCC Forms 610A (Application for permit of an Alien Amateur Radio Licensee to Operate in the United States) and 610B (Application for an Amateur Club, RACES or Military Recreation Station License) now are available from the FCC's forms page on the Internet (<http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/>) or ftp to [ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms](ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/)) and via the FCC's fax-on-demand service, 202-418-0177. They join Forms 610 and 610V which have been available from these sources.

When requesting forms from the fax-on-demand service, callers must be calling from the handset of their fax machine, and must know the ID number of the form they want (an index of forms is available). The numbers for the amateur forms are:

- \* Form 610 000610
- \* Form 610A 006101

- \* Form 610B 006102
- \* Form 610V 006108

- The ARRL Letter, 7/19/96



# PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

## Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Jim Merrill, W9AYK, Secretary • W283 Hillendale Drive  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

## WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Mgr.
BWN	Yes	3985	1100	0600	W9AYK
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	K9UTQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	N9MXW
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9UW
NWTN	Yes	34/94	2330	1830	NS9Q
(Rhinelander area)					
RCRA	No	01/61	2330	1830	KA9OMC
(Mondays CST) (Menomonie Area)					
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0145	2045	WB9NRK
(Green Bay Area)					
ARES	No	4.65/5.25	0100	2000	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
RACES	No	3993.5	1300	0800	WA9OAY
(LSB Sunday)					

### WNA MEETING MINUTES June 9, 1996

The meeting was called to order by the president KE9VU at 11:34. Present were KE9VU, W9AYK, WB9ICH and jr. op, N9BDL, K9DHR, KB9IKS, W9NGT, K9BX, K9UTQ, W9UW, W9CBE, K9FHI, NS9Q, N9ILG, WC9O, KA9KLZ, K9JPS and WB9JSW.

The secretary, Not only forgot to bring a tape to record the minutes on but, after KA9KLZ gave him a new, unused one, the usually reliable tape recorder didn't function properly. Next time I'll ask ICH's jr op to do the recording. He could have gotten it right.

The current WNA list of officials, and net delegates and managers was distributed. Corrections noted were spelling of Intrastate net & Sheerar's name. These have been corrected. Minutes were approved FHI/BDL.

Chairman introduced Ron Tlachac, W9UW, N/M of WIN/L. He also noted that we have the following new additions to WNA: N9MXW, KA9GBG, and N9KHD. These were not present. Treasurer's report was presented from W9KKM. It was moved to accept the report. NGT/FHI & carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Nothing.

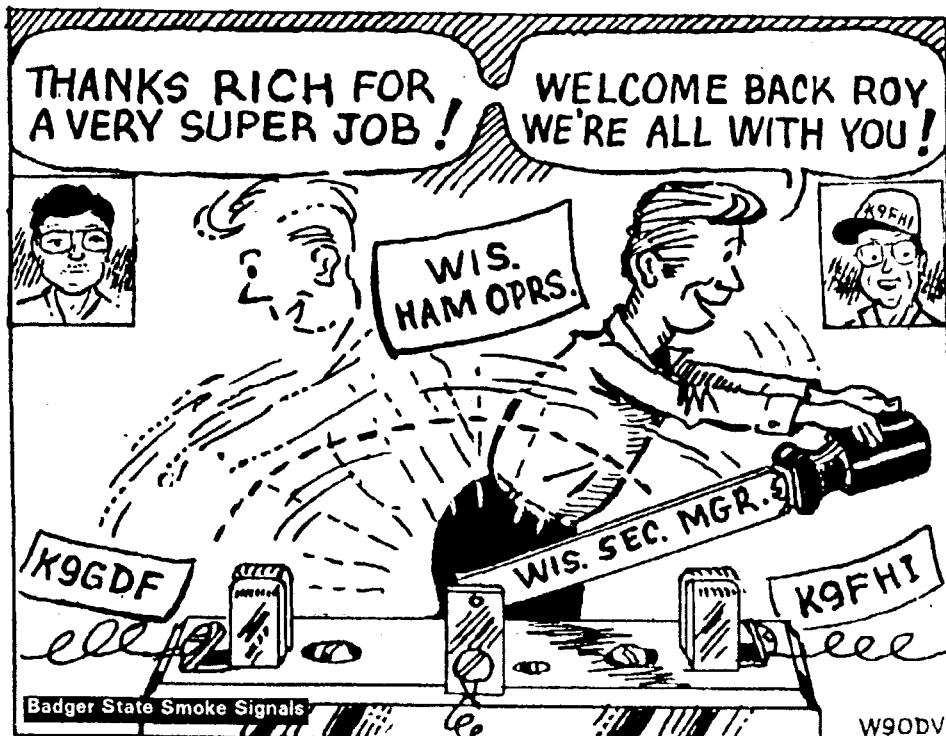
### NEW BUSINESS

Picnic was discussed. 5 families attended last year's picnic. Attendance has been going down each year. Shall we continue the picnic? Or change the constitution? Ade, N9DHR, suggested that we hold the picnic in conjunction with the Appleton swapfest Nov. 3 At Kaukauna. There is a heated shelter available at the site. It was moved and seconded JPS/FHI that we have the picnic at the site suggested by DHR. Carried Chairman appointed DHR and JSW to be the committee to make arrangements and report back at the September on the air meeting. A white elephant auction was suggested, donations perhaps?

### REPORTS

BWN: In the winter, it's the long skip. In the spring it's anticipation of early band openings and we get an hour set back by daylight saving time. Come summer the

Continued on page 10



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At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07-.67 and Club Station

P. O. Box 923 • Plover, WI 54467

### MEETING MINUTES July 10, 1996

President Mary Eiden, KA9FAS, gave the club to order at 1930 sharp. Due to unavoidable absences, there was no program, so we went directly into the business meeting.

One of the unavoidable absentees was the club secretary, KB9IIF, so Joe Larson, N9JW, filled in for David.

Wisconsin Special Olympics president Dennis Aldridge sent us a thank you letter for our participation in the state summer games.

Bob Baird, W9NN, reported on his and Ron Howe NJ9H's expedition to the 146.985 repeater site to debug the power supply. They found the twelve volt battery putting out just over seven volts, and a missing power strip. The Astron power supply has been temporarily reconnected as backup to the battery, and the repeater is back on the air with about thirteen watts output. Members voted to approve purchase of a new power strip.

Bob also gave the Field Day report. We did quite well in class 1A, making 556 HF contacts and 73 VHF contacts, including KP4 and Florida on six meters. The results opened several eyes as to how effective the VHF bands can be. Thanks to John Feltz, WA9LWJ, for organizing this year's successful Field Day. This reporter can testify a good time was had in our new site out in Junction City, several educational construction problems were solved in the field, and the picnic at Feltz's house afterward was enjoyed by even the vegetarian in the bunch.

John, WA9LWJ, also has found what might work out to be our new site for the swapfest. There are several new buildings in the Junction City park, near where we were for Field Day, that might work well for our swapfest. There is room for exhibitors, dealers (with access the day before), rooms for meetings and exams, and kitchen facilities.

The park has a ball diamond, and playground equipment for the kids and young-in-spirit amateurs. We have penciled in this site for next summer's swapfest, although we won't be committed to taking it if something better comes along. Total cost to rent the buildings would come to \$150 for two buildings for two days. This is a lot less than the University Center charges for only part of a single day. Everyone attending liked the idea.

We still have an Alinco DR110 at Radio City, waiting for our decision on whether to swap it in for a new one or get it fixed. We voted to swap it in for a new one. The replacement radio will probably take over the Packetcluster activity, which would free up the club's multi-mode Kenwood for regular club station voice use on FM or SSB.

Next month's meeting will be our summer fox hunt and picnic at Bob Baird's house in Plover. Everyone is welcome to come and help chow down. Al Mallek, K9WVM, committed to bringing groceries, and you can bring your own to throw on the grill if you want. Dave Golla, N9OVT, has first dibs on hiding the fox this year, because he won the hunt last year.

Keep your pens and word processors going: the threat to both 144 and 420 MHz is still there, still real.

### Attendance

Mary Eiden	KA9FAS
Joe Larson	N9JW
Mike Urban	KB9GXV
Bob Baird	W9NN
Deb Kroll	N9EIL
Gene Kroll	KE9MA
Mike Eiden	WD9JID
Al Mallek	N9WBS

Respectfully submitted:  
Joe Larson, N9JW, CWRA Treasurer



## SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Chris Jacobs, N9VKC, Secretary  
W4065 Dekker Rd., Waldo, WI 53093

Well, I bet you're surprised to see an article for the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club included this month. Well, here it is!

As most of you know, club elections were held in June and the following amateurs were elected to office:

Penny Ten Pas, President  
Larry Bahr, Vice President  
Steve Billings, Treasurer  
Chris Jacobs, Secretary  
Clayton Nall, Board Member

I'd like to take a line here to thank the board from last year for their service and for those who stayed on for another term.

Well, a lot has happened since the last article appeared in the BSSS so I'd like to recap just a bit to let you know that the club hasn't vaporized like the free time of our last secretary <grin>.

In May we helped the Wisconsin Space Business Roundtable with the successful launch of the Super Loki Rocket, the first

suborbital launch in Wisconsin history. I'd like to thank all the Hams from Michigan who participated in recovery of the ATV balloon that was also launched. These hams had 4 days notice and were still able to track and recover the balloon package that took them on a several hundred mile trek. The members of SCARC who participated had a good time and are ready for next year.

June has passed along with last year's club officers.

Field day was a success due to all the participation by the members of the SCARC. Much thanks is due to Penny Ten Pas, N9TCF, this year's Field Day coordinator, who did a great job getting things organized and setup.

A reminder that dues are due. Please pay Steve, N9TRK, ASAP.

The next meeting for SCARC is August 13. Hope to see you all there. □



## Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Continued from page 9

long skip is gone, the band opens early and the static level is 20 over S9. Just like Wisconsin's good farmers, there's always something to complain about. But we can never do anything to correct these problems. Checkins are down. So is the traffic, from 65 per session in March to 57 per session in May. Traffic for March was 82 per session and in May it was 70 per session.

We still deliver 40-50 weather reports to NWS every morning. The new ROSA input to Sullivan is installed and on most days it works without a hitch. We are using 9600 baud now. That's a lot faster than the previous 300. Rudy Schaar says he'd like to have each participant's station be upgraded to official in the near future. He will be initiating action on that. No big hurry, but it is coming and is still voluntary.

**BEN:** 20 checkins per day traffic is down a bit. need helps for NCS Saturdays and Sundays.

**WNN:** N/M was not present so others volunteered this info. Tom, N9MXW, took a direct hit with lightning so JIY has been filling in for him as well as others. There are 3-4 checkins per session. It is in operation.

**WSBN:** K9UTQ, N/M, said check ins are down. They are in need of NCS for Sunday and Tuesday sessions.

**WSSN:** BDL, N/M, has 2 new regular check ins, LGU and ZTY. Lee said that he is not bashful about picking up the CW net if you wait more than a few minutes, off go the switches. And the participants are off doing something else. If that happens

very often, there goes the net. Doing a good job as NCS takes practice.

**WIN/E:** WB9ICH, N/M: We're doing fine. We have about 6 check ins per session. We can use additional help for 9RN representatives.

**WIN/L:** W9UW, N/M: Check ins are up. Traffic compared to last winter is doubled. LGU is back on the air. He can use some help with 9RN representatives.

**NWTN:** NS9Q, N/M: Participation is down. Some NCS are picking up the net two times a week. One change that may be contributing is the change of the repeater site. The new one is up high in the air but the repeater just doesn't have the coverage that it used to have. People are just having a difficult time checking in for that same reason.

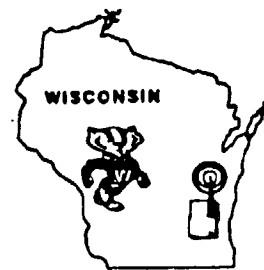
**STM/KA9KLZ:** Glad to see that the Novice net is active again. In general, the nets are doing well. WB9JSW suggested that traffic can be increased for the weather net if you know some people active on 2 meters that are interested in weather. You can take their report and relay it to the BWN. This might even get their interest up so they will pass that General Class license.

**K9FIII/SM** said that W9CBE is the Assistant STM. He takes reports when KLZ isn't available. The secretary was instructed to send a letter of appreciation to K9GDF for 12 years of service to the amateurs of Wisconsin. BLD/KLZ carried.

**SEC/A W9NGT:** The Severe Storm Forecast Center in Kansas City is moving to Norman OK. and is the Severe Storm Prediction Center. The number of watches has increased considerably. There are two more antennas to be put up at Sullivan.

Next meeting will be an on the air meeting. Sept. 22, right after the BEN. Meeting closed at 1:04.

Submitted:  
W9AYK, Secretary, WNA



## Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW,  
Secretary  
465 Elder Lane  
Allenton, WI 53002-9799



**Club Repeater: 146.73 MHz**

### MEETING MINUTES July 11, 1996

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by WCARC president Walt, N9LLS. The minutes of the previous meeting were not available due to the unavailability of the club Secretary due to illness. The financial report was read by Paul, W9SIZ, at the request of the absent club treasurer. Acceptance of the trea-

surer's report as read was moved by Don, K9GR, and seconded by Larry, WB9BVB, and by the unanimous vote of the membership present.

Repeater Committee Report - Don, K9GR, reported that the club repeater is working well. Sherman, W9NGT, reported that positive feedback was received from radio operators on the Circus Train con-

Please turn to page 12

## FCC Call Sign Update

The following is a list of the FCC's most recently issued call signs as of July 1, 1996.

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0CI	KI0DP	++	KB0WWW
1	AA1QH	KE1FL	N1XPG	KB1BYU
2	AB2BO	KG2HR	++	KB2ZKI
3	AA3OP	KE3WW	N3XTT	KB3BPL
4	AE4VY	KT4SW	++	KF4KQM
5	AC5IX	KM5BR	++	KC5VEB
6	AC6WA	KQ6HP	++	KF6EWW
7	AB7RL	KJ7YY	++	KC7RTO
8	AA8XM	KG8XY	++	KC8EIA
9	AA9SS	KG9HD	++	KB9NZU
HI	#	AH6OQ	#	WH6DCB
AK	#	AL7QM	KL0AA	WL7EKK
VI	WP2X	KP2CJ	NP2JI	WP2AIE
PR	KP3B	KP3AB	NP3CF	WP4NMF

# New prefixes are available for this block, but none have been issued.

++ All call signs in this group have been issued in this area.

- The ARRL Letter, 7/19/96

## Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Paul Neubauer, N9IOG, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

**Six Meter Repeater: 51.74 Input/51.24 Output**

Due to the July 4 holiday there was no regular WVRA meeting in July. There was a picnic on the 14th and we missed all

those who couldn't make it.

The program for the August 6 meeting is RF and Power Grounding.

## Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, Secretary

P. O. Box 401 • Abbotsford, WI 54405-0401

### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, August 1st at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+ 600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex.

### EXCERPTS FROM MINUTES OF JULY 11, 1996 MEETING

NOTE: The club secretary was unable to attend the July meeting of the Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club, and as of July 19th, no one had forwarded minutes of the meeting to him, so they are not available for publishing here. If available,

they will be published in the September issue of *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

### CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ  
ARES Emergency Coordinator

Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequencies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

Want to know how your club can become a participating club in Badger State Smoke Signals?

Drop a note on your club's letterhead to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901, or call Ken at (608) 742-3560.

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# The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI  
ARRL Affiliated  
Providing Communications for American Red Cross and ARES  
Alex Voss, N9RGX, Secretary  
c/o RMC • P. O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 53401-0003



## MEETING MINUTES June 10, 1996

The meeting was called to order by President Rob Madson, KF9ZT, at 7:33 p.m. local time.

### ATTENDANCE

Rob, KF9ZT, President  
Kenny, N9WHR, Vice-President  
Dave, AA9HL, Treasurer  
Lee, N9VNU, Activities Manager  
Spence, W9LDH  
Bob, W0WLN  
Clare, N9MBF  
Bill, W9OVZ  
Don, KB9HAM  
Tony, N9ZWM  
Robert, N9ZWO  
Roger, KB9JIF  
Steve, N9XSJ  
Al, N9ZWJ  
Mary, N9ZWE  
Kyle, KB9NPT  
Paul, N9RGW  
Gary, AD5H  
Pete, KB9LXM  
Cheryl, WS9P  
Bruce, K9RRS  
Gene, WB9ZKY  
Larry, WA9JMO  
Dave, WB9USI

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Rob, KF9ZT opened the meeting by bringing up the threat to the two meter and seventy centimeter bands by the proposal of the representatives of the Low-Earth-Orbit (LEO) Industry's proposed list of candidate frequency bands for reallocation to, and exclusive use of the mobile satellite service. The list includes the current Amateur Radio two meter and seventy centimeter bands. This could mean the end of Amateur Radio operations on these bands if this effort were successful.

Hams were called to action in a letter sent out by the Amateur (sic) Radio Relay League in May. (For more information please check out QST as well as the June issue of *Badger State Smoke Signals*.)

The Minutes were accepted as printed in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as read.

### OLD BUSINESS

Rob, KF9ZT, said that the Antenna Analyzer has come in. It will be available to be borrowed from the club and there will be a \$20.00 deposit that will be returned when the unit is returned to the club. If you would like to borrow the unit contact Rob. The unit is available to members of the Racine Megacycle Club ONLY! For membership information please contact Dave, AA9HL.

Cheryl, WS9P talked about the Amateur Radio Cruise. She said that we would leave from Milwaukee and fly to San Juan and the cruise will start and end in San Juan, PR and go to: Aruba, St. Martin and St. Thomas. We would be on the Rhapsody of the Sea (Royal Caribbean) a Norwegian Ship. Rules and Regulations are: They DO allow Amateur Radios on ship, but only 1 HF rig; 2 meter and 70 centimeter rigs are ok. We must use our own equipment and may not use the ship's radio room. We are responsible for all licensing for the territories we pass through. The cruise is aimed at the Ham Radio community and you do not need to be a club member. If you are interested please contact Cheryl, WS9P.

Dave, AA9HL, gave the Fox Hunt Report and KB9HSJ's team will be the fox on June 21.

Larry, WA9JMO brought up the Worked 99 Wisconsin (W99W) contest. The first certificate was sent out in June of

1959, and the last one was sent out in 1976. We will resurrect this award on January 1, 1997. The criteria will be: You must make 99 Wisconsin contacts. Submit the contacts with the call, the date, the city, the mode, and the frequency. The contact must be from one transceiver to another (simplex) no repeater contacts.

### NEW BUSINESS

Larry also brought up that he was in contact with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization. He said that they are always interested in activities to do. Larry proposes that the adult and child could come to the Racine Megacycle Club for an Amateur Radio Course and that the club pick up the tab for the materials.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, July 21. The Racine Megacycle Club will be operating its Salmon-A-Rama Special event station from 10am to 2pm. We will be operating on the 20, 40 and 75/80 meter bands.

Sunday, July 28. **RACINE HAMFEST**, South Hills Country Club. East Frontage Road (I-94) Between Hwys. 20 and K. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission: \$4.00 Tables: \$8.00 Electricity and outdoor sales are also available. SASE TO: RMC, PO Box 3 Racine, WI 53401-0003. Talk-in 147.27+ MHz.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Alexander Voss, N9RGX  
Secretary RMC*

## MEETING MINUTES Monday, July 8, 1996

The meeting was called to order by President Rob Madson, KF9ZT, at 7:33p.m. local time. Those present were:

Rob, KF9ZT, President  
Kenny, N9WHR, Vice-President  
Dave, AA9HL, Treasurer  
Alex, N9RGX, Secretary  
Lee, N9VNU, Activities Manager  
Bill, W9OVZ  
Jim, W9LXY  
Spence, W9LDH  
Bill, NW9P  
Kyle, KB9NPT  
Larry, WA9JMO  
Gene, WB9ZKY  
Mike, KB9JXX  
Al, N9ZWJ  
Mary, N9ZWE  
Dennis, KG9DO  
Steve, N9XSJ  
Robert, N9ZWO  
Tony, N9ZWM  
Dave, WB9USI  
Pete, KB9LXM  
Robin, Visitor  
Bob, W0WLN  
James, Visitor  
Cheryl, WS9P  
Roger, KB9JIF

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Rob, KF9ZT, said that we just finished up with Field Day. We are not yet done digesting all of the log, however we do have a final on the phone contacts. We have a total of 334 phone contacts, 10 satellite contacts and 1 packet contact. We have not finished with the CW contacts. One of the things of the many that was brought up to me about Field Day was the idea that perhaps there were a group of people who were interested in really going after points seriously. I think that if there are people who are really interested in doing that I see no reason at all not to work with a club and have a true special activity. I propose...

# Ham Calendar 1996

Courtesy Racine Megacycle Club

## AUGUST

Sat 3 UHF Contest  
Sun 4 UHF Contest  
Sun 4 Kenosha Ham Breakfast  
Mon 12 RMC Meeting  
Fri 16 RMC Fox Hunt  
Sat 17 Hamfest Franklin  
Sat 17 10 GHz Contest  
Sun 18 10 GHz Contest  
Sun 18 QCWA #162 Annual Picnic  
Sat 24 Hamfest Gnalaska

## SEPTEMBER

Sun 1 Kenosha Ham Breakfast  
Sat 7 Testing Racine  
Mon 9 RMC Meeting  
Fri 13 RMC Fox Hunt  
Fri 13 through  
Sun 15 Hamfest Peoria  
Sat 14 VHF QSO Party  
Sun 15 VHF QSO Party  
Sun 16 QCWA #162 Business Meeting  
Sat 21 Amateur Radio Awareness  
Sat 21 Hamfest Grayslake  
Sun 22 Hamfest Grayslake  
Sat 21 through  
Sun 22 10 GHz Contest

## OCTOBER

Sat 5 Testing Racine  
Sun 6 Kenosha Ham Breakfast

Fri 11 RMC Fox Hunt  
Sun 13 Hamfest Waukesha (KMRA)  
Mon 14 RMC Meeting  
Sat 19 BSA Jamboree on the Air  
Sun 20 BSA Jamboree on the Air  
Sat 19 Simulated Emergency Test  
Sun 20 Simulated Emergency Test  
Sun 20 QCWA #162 Election  
Tue 29 Lakeshore Meeting

## NOVEMBER

Sat 2 Testing Racine  
Sat 2 Sweepstakes CW  
Sun 3 Kenosha Ham Breakfast  
Fri 8 RMC Fox Hunt  
Mon 11 RMC Meeting  
Sat 16 through  
Mon 18 Sweepstakes - Phone  
Mon 18 QCWA #162 Business Meeting

## DECEMBER

Sun 1 Kenosha Ham Breakfast  
Fri 6 RMC Fox Hunt  
Fri 6 through  
Sun 8 160 Meter Contest  
Sat 7 Testing Racine  
Sun 8 QCWA #162 Christmas Meeting  
Mon 9 RMC Christmas Meeting  
Sat 14 10-Meter Contest  
Tue 31 Straight Key Night

### ACTIVITIES MANAGER'S REPORT

Lee, N9VNU, said that he would like to thank everybody that participated in Field Day. He said he would like to thank Kenny, N9WHR, and Pete, KB9LXM, for their service as co-chairs along with him during the 1996 Field Day. Lee also said that Jim, WA0PFV was top scorer in the Wisconsin QSO Party for the club and Dave, KC9NG, was just behind him.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary's report was unavailable and will be given at the August 12th meeting.

**SPECIAL THANKS** were offered to Larry, WA9JMO, and Wendy, N9PAC, of Decision Farms, Ltd. for the use of their facilities during the Racine Megacycle Club's Field Day Event.

### OLD BUSINESS

Larry, WA9JMO, brought up the Ham Class. He has been in contact with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Organization of Racine. We can advertise in their newsletter to have some of their adult volunteers and

young people they are counseling to come in and take a ham class with us. We are looking at around September to start, possibly 12 weeks and location is yet to be determined. This would be a codeless-Tech class. Other classes to be determined.

Dave, WB9USI said that the 1996 Racine Hamfest is Sunday July 28 at South Hills Country Club. He also passed out sign up sheets for help with the 1997 Racine Hamfest.

Cheryl, WS9P said that the Racine Megacycle Club, W9UDU, Salmon-A-Rama special event station will be on the air on July 21. We will not be operating from the event itself because the club's equipment has caused problems with the scales for weighing fish in the past.

### NEW BUSINESS

Dave, AA9HL, said that December 9th is our Annual Christmas Meeting Trolley Ride. It is an all you can eat (in 45 minutes) chicken dinner and then a ride on the trolley to look at the christmas lights.

Lee, N9VNU wants to have anyone who has restored or built their own equipment to have them bring it in for a show-and-tell night.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m. local time.

*Respectfully Submitted  
Alexander Voss, N9RGX  
Secretary, RMC*

## Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO  
5400 Six Mile Road  
Racine, WI 53402



Wisconsin's QCWA three Chapter Social Outing has been finalized and reservations confirmed with the restaurant in Oshkosh. The event will be held at Butch's Anchor Inn, 225 West 20th Avenue in Oshkosh on Saturday the 24th of August. Take Hwy 41 to Hwy 44 in Oshkosh, turn Northeast taking Park Street (Hwy 44) to 20th Street/Avenue, turn right and drive to Butch's. Registration and socialization will be at 11:15 a.m., welcome and introductions at 12 noon, lunch at 12:30 p.m. and our program at 1:30 p.m. Three entree choice, Honey Dijon Chicken, Chicken Cordon Blue or Boiled Haddock are available. Entree price is \$9.00 and includes coffee or milk, tax and tip. Flyers with reservation form attached have been distributed to Chapters 55, 162 and 174 points of contact. Please see your Chapter's contact person for a flyer. If you have not received a flyer and plan on attending, you may contact me directly with the name and number of attendees. In mail selection and a check for \$9.00 for

each meal) made out to QCWA 1996 Social Function and mail it to: WA9JMO, Larry McCalvy, 5400 Six Mile Road, Racine, WI 53402. You may also call (414) 639-7327 for further details. I need all information and reservations not later than the 20th of August. Sooner would be better for me! Thanks!

The ballot counting and rechecking for QCWA's International Election has drawn to a close (31 July 1996). The Chapter has tallied and mailed the results to the National Headquarters and we shall know who the new directors are with the Fall or Winter edition of the Journal.

Field Day 1996 has faded into history and we had a good time. Our limited operation netted us 18 CW and 57 phone contacts. With a few bonus points our Chapter should be listed with just under 600 points. Participants, at least those who made an appearance included Art Jones, KB9DJN; Chuck Knotek, W9GKM; Al

*Please turn to page 14*



## Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 10

cerning the high quality and coverage of the repeater.

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Brian, N9LOO, has placed a WCARC web page on the internet. It is located at URL <<http://www.nconnect.com/~wcarc/>>. Members and others are invited to peruse it for information regarding the club.

2. Two WCARC members participated in the Bike Ride sponsored by the Riveredge Nature Center. Those participating were Bill, N9IBU, and Tom, N9LZW.

3. The WCARC Field Day score was 3390 points. There were 574 CW QSOs and 143 SSB QSOs. It was noted that one of the club batteries used for Field Day was having problems holding a charge. It was moved by Don, K9GR, and seconded by Walt, N9LLS, that the club buy another deep cell battery just before Field Day next year. The motion was voted upon and carried. It was also decided that the old battery should be checked thoroughly and run through several cycles to determine if it would be usable again. Paul, W9SIZ,

volunteered to oversee that project.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. The club picnic will be held at Riverside Park in West Bend on August 10, 1996. Members and guests are all invited to attend. Bring your own food and drink.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Don, K9GR, seconded by Bob, KG9CW, and unanimously approved by the membership present.

There was no program after the meeting.

Submitted by:  
Don Woelz, K9GR

### Breakfast Schedule

Aug 03, 1996 9:00 a.m., The Mineshaft, Hartford

Aug 10, 1996 11:00 a.m. No breakfast! Club picnic at Riverside Park in West Bend. Bring the Family!

Aug 17, 1996 9:00 a.m., Slinger Inn, Slinger

Aug 24, 1996 9:00 a.m., Jimmy's Restaurant, Jackson

Aug 31, 1996 9:00 a.m., Corfu in Richfield

## QCWA Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Continued from page 11

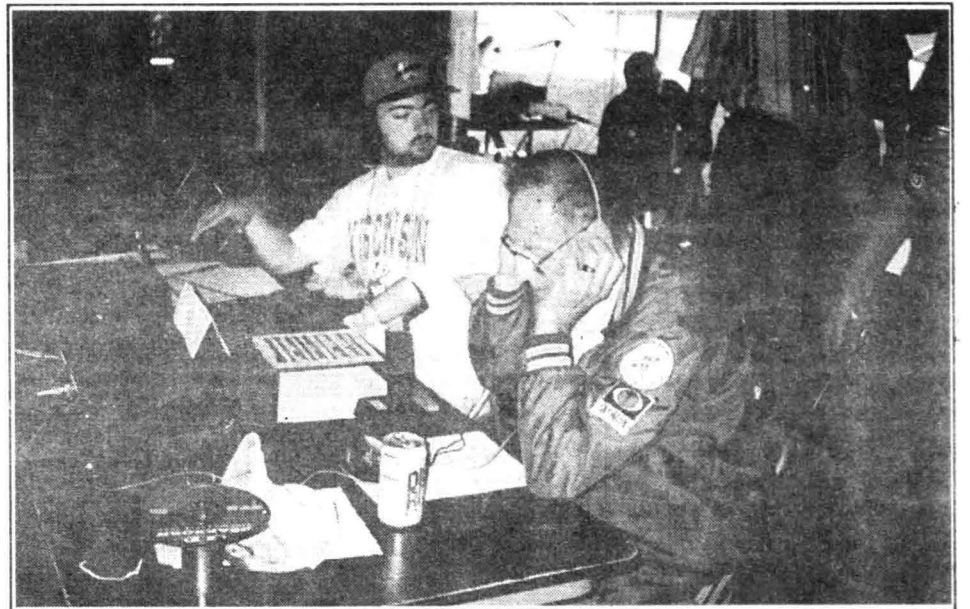
Algiers, W9HR; Bob Burgermeister, WB9IJY; Spence Clöpe, W9LDH; Ken Knoff, N9NBC; Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO; Bill Komistra, W9OVZ; Herb Ladwig, W9PHJ; Bob Jensen, W0WLN; Ed Westberg, WA9Y; and George Pagels, K9AAL. I believe all but KB9DJN and WB9IJY operated from our site. Special thanks to Rick, KG9ER, and Dave, KB9-

NG, for their assistance making contacts for KB9LUJ.

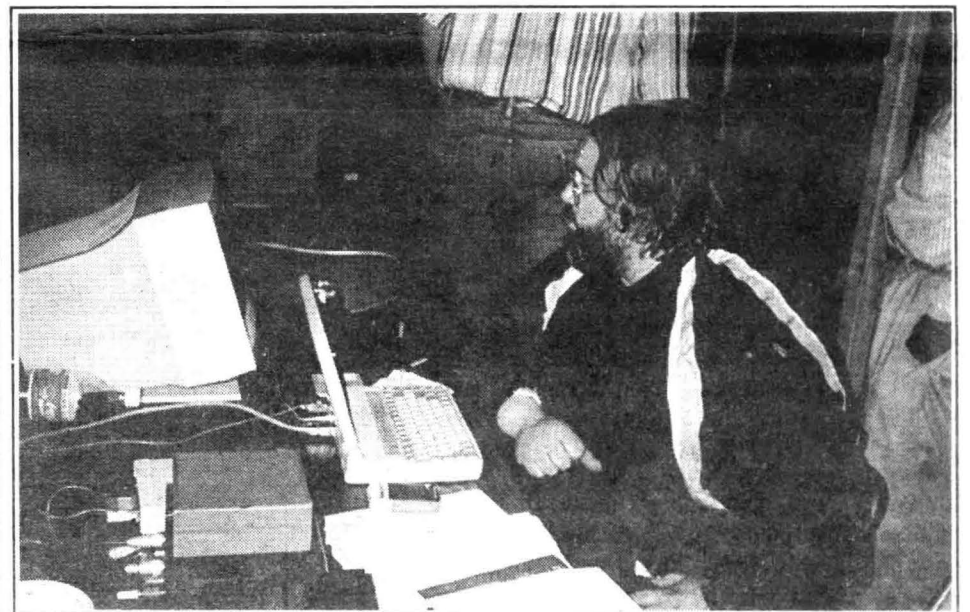
The annual picnic scheduled for Sunday, 18 August 1996, 1 to 4 p.m. at the home of Larry, WA9JMO, and Wendy, N9PAC, McCalvy, 5400 Six Mile Road in Racine. Our Chapter will provide the soda and watermelon, the McCalvys will have the grills and (hopefully) roasted corn. Details available on the 147.27, Thursday, 9 p.m. net. And postcards (I believe) will be mailed to members as reminders. Hope to see most of you on the 18th for the picnic and on the 24th in Oshkosh.

73, Larry McCalvy,  
WA9JMO

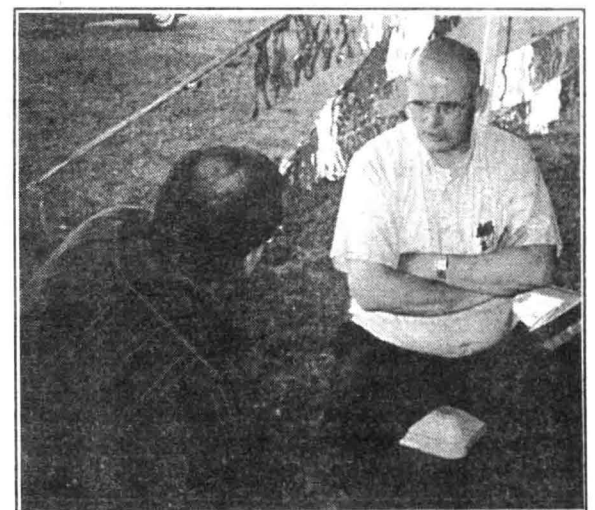
## Field Day 1996 • Wisconsin Rapids Amateur Radio Club



WB9QXO, the Wisconsin Rapids Amateur Radio Club, enjoyed Field Day fun, shown here as WB9QXO (front) pulls out a weak station on 20 meter SSB. Behind him, KB9GXY gallantly does battle to get his Novice/Tech station working.



N9XMJ prepares his digits to operate his digital station.



Field Day offers an opportunity to explain Amateur Radio and its value in emergencies to non-hams. Here, K9PJB, at right does just that for a visitor to the W9DQA operating site.

- Photos courtesy  
Ron Tlachac, W9UW

## Riverland Amateur Radio Club

Dan Abts, N9PZC  
Secretary

Club mail address: P.O. Box 621  
Onalaska, WI 54650



### MEETING MINUTES July 2, 1996

The July meeting of the Riverland Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 7:03 p.m. on July 2, 1996 by President Duane, W9HWQ. There were 20 people in attendance.

The minutes of the June meeting were corrected to read that we have 70 paid members.

Roger, KA9BKK, gave the treasurer's report. We have 70 paid members. The report was accepted as read.

Programs: Feroz, WU9N, demonstrated receiving WEFAX and SSTV pictures on a computer connected to his Kenwood TS870.

440 Repeater: Dan, N9PZC, had nothing new to report.

Net Manager: Mark, N9UNW, reported that the Sunday Night Net has been held regularly with between 10 and 25 check-ins. He has volunteers signed up to be net control through August. He asked for people to see him after the meeting to sign-up for a Sunday in September or October.

ARES/Skywarn: Kent, W9LZQ, requested that Skywarn spotters not call directly to the amateurs working at the National Weather Service office during severe weather. The operators at the NWS are working with up to three nets in various areas as well as the NWS staff and it is difficult to keep everything under control. Spotters should contact the control operator for the local net to relay information to the operators at the NWS.

Bob, N9LZK, reported that the Red Cross is setting up a quick response team for zone five since there are only three Red Cross chapters in the whole zone. Equipment for the Red Cross station has been ordered and help will be sought for putting up the antenna.

Property Manager: Bob, N9LZK, had nothing much to report other than that the club's rotor has been repaired.

Swapfest: Dick, K0JYB, mailed flyers to several amateur radio businesses around the area. He has placed ads in *Nuts and Volts* and *Amateur Radio Trader*.

146.97 Repeater: Walt, AA9AW, reported that the repeater is working fine.

Field Day: Art, W0JDC, reported that field day went well, even though a small number of people participated. The trailer

was cleaned thoroughly the Saturday before. Karl, KB9EQI, did most or all of the operating. Red WO0W's property is a good site for making contacts.

VE: Bill, KE9XQ, had nothing new to report. The next test sessions are scheduled for August 24, 1996 at 7:00 p.m. and August 25th at 8:00 a.m. at the Omni Center in Onalaska.

### OLD BUSINESS

The Constitution and the Standing Rules of the club and the repeater operation guidelines were still available for those who didn't pick them up at the last meeting.

Mark N9UNW, reminded us of the possibility of providing communications for the Blue Nights motorcycle tour passing through on Labor Day weekend.

Walt, AA9AW, encouraged us to read the article in the last *QST* concerning the threat to our VHF and UHF ham bands. He also encouraged everyone to join the ARRL.

### NEW BUSINESS

The issue concerning the problems the we have been having in getting business band radios to work for a 440 repeater was brought up. Bill, KE9XQ, made a motion to purchase a commercial 440 repeater. Mark, N9UNW, seconded the motion. Feroz, WU9N, made a motion to amend the original motion that the amount not exceed \$1500. Tom, KB9BJQ, seconded the amendment. After considerable discussion, both the amendment and the original motion passed. The 440 repeater committee will gather more information and proceed with acquiring the repeater.

Feroz, WU9N, made a motion at 8:10 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted:  
Dan N9PZC

## RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION

At press time, nothing had been received for publication from RCRA.

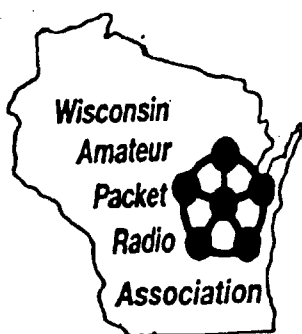
## Vanity calls selling well

The vanity call sign program has been immensely popular. To date, the unofficial vanity receipt total is almost 3000.

FCC statistics also show that as of the end of June, new licensees age 21 or younger totaled 372 more than a month earlier.

-- FCC in *The ARRL Letter*, 7/19/96





# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association

Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC

609 Wilson Street • Neenah, WI 54956

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 720 N. Broadway (Upper West) • Green Bay, WI 54303

## WAPR News - August 1996

Hello everyone. I do hope you have been able to spend some time enjoying the warm weather we have been experiencing lately. After all, the common joke about Wisconsin is "9 months of winter, and 3 months of bad sledding". Apparently, the joke is on us this year.

Things have been heating up a little in the packet network this season, and in a good way. Two new developments to report to you this month.

First, the new Black Creek Node has been put on the air and is in the process of being tweaked. This node, you will remember, restores the link between Appleton and Wittenburg. Al, KB9BYQ moved the Appleton node stack from its former Greenville location to his home in Appleton and the change in location did not do the link any favors. Al elected to buy the equipment for the site in Black Creek and along with Steve, KE9LZ, installed in in early July. After some more tweaking to the system is done at Black Creek and Wittenburg, the link should prove to be very reliable at 9600 baud once again. As of right now, there is no plan to put a VHF LAN node at the site. The node alias is #446BC, and it is a backbone node (invisible to most network users).

The other development is the purchase of the equipment at the WINFR site in North Freedom, Wisconsin. You may remember that the site was originally occupied with a node installed by WA9SOU. Later, Larry WD9ESU took over operation and elected to upgrade it. Larry expressed a desire for WAPR to take the site over, with WAPR purchasing the equipment at the site. If WAPR did not assume responsibility for the site, it could have very well been lost.

WINFR provides a vital mail forwarding link at 9600 baud for much of Wisconsin, so the board of directors of WAPR took this situation very seriously. If this site were not maintained, WAPR would have had to find a site (not an easy task these days), buy equipment, arrange for installation, and deal with the tweaking necessary in any new installation before mail forwarding could be restored. This would have meant far more work (not to mention interrupted mail service) for our organization. After consulting with the WAPR Board of Directors, Joel N9BQM has started the ball rolling to acquire the equipment at this site. You will remember from June's meeting minutes that WAPR has purchased other equipment at this site from WA9SOU. The purchase of the remaining equipment will insure that the equipment at the site is 100% WAPR owned and operated. Not to mention that we will all enjoy uninterrupted mail service.

Which brings up one more topic. Yes, it is a membership pitch. As you can see, WAPR is investing money in the packet network. WAPR obtains financing from membership dues, and without membership dues, we would not be able to purchase equipment for sites like WINFR. No WINFR, and we have a problem with getting and sending our mail. I am quite certain that a lot of readers enjoy reading not only their personal mail, but get a lot of benefit from ARRL bulletins, AMSAT bulletins, and the endless stream of other information you see on your local BBS.

So if you benefit from this, won't you help to support it? Please consider filling out a WAPR membership form and mailing it off with the nominal sum it takes to become a WAPR member. You'll be glad you did.

Until next month, 73 from Andy.

## Using the Wisconsin Network - part 18

by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

In past editions of Using the Wisconsin Network, we have dealt with all sorts of networked packet radio node stations. This time, we will deal with a station that is not strictly a Network Node, but becomes part of a network in very many areas. This type of station also is capable of doing some nifty stuff, and you, or someone you know may even own one.

It is a KA-Node, and it is inside of a great many of the Kantronics TNC's that are sold these days.

A KA-Node is not a networked node in the strictest sense, but you can make a long-distance connection through a series of them to form a loose network, of sorts. They do not utilize the "Net/Rom" protocol, as Network Nodes do. They are strictly AX.25 nodes. They are a sophisticated digipeater that operates on the same principle as a node. They repeat your packets, acknowledge the receipt of them, and acknowledge the receipt of a packet intended for your station before the packet is sent to you.

In other words, they do not rely on "End-to-End" acknowledgment the way that digipeating does. Therefore, it is much more efficient when used as a node. The KA-Node can be used as a node on your usual 2-meter LAN frequency, and some can even act as a gateway to other frequencies or LANs.

Most KA-Nodes have a Secondary Station I.D. of -7, although this can be changed to a different SSID. They can also have an alias, but this alias is not recognized by network nodes (they don't speak the same "Net/Rom" language). They are sometimes called "Wild Nodes", and one can only hazard a guess as to the reason.

There are two versions of the KA-Node. The single-port version is found on TNC's like the KPC-3, while the dual-port version can be seen in the KAM and 9612 TNC's.

The single-port version is easy enough to get familiar with, it resembles a simple network node in many ways. When you connect to one, you will get a greeting and a prompt that looks something like this:

\*\*\*CONNECTED TO WILD NODE WX9APR-7

Welcome to my node, feel free to use it. PBBS is WX9APR-1

ENTER COMMAND: B,C,J,N, or Help?

The B command is just like any other node or BBS - use it to do a polite disconnect.

The C command tells the node to connect to another station. C WZ9APR will tell the node to connect to station WZ9APR. If it is unable to connect to this station, the node will respond with:

\*\*\*RETRIED OUT AT NODE WX9APR\*\*\*

ENTER COMMAND: B,C,J,N, or Help?

The J command is the Heard List, and can be seen in three forms, J, JS, and JL. JS is a shorter form heard list, without the extras. JL will give a longer heard list, with the time and date the station was heard, along with digipeaters and the type of station it has heard.

The N command is also much the same as what one would encounter on a network node. It will list nodes, and it gathers a node list based upon the station ID that it hears from another station. Other KA-Nodes are shown on this node list, as well as any network nodes it can directly monitor on the frequency. KA-Nodes don't show nodes linked by backbone or wire link.

The Help command will show all of the valid node commands and their variations.

The Dual-Port KA-Node offers one other important feature that makes it all the more useful. There is one addition to the command prompt, and it looks like this:

\*\*\*CONNECTED TO WILD NODE WX9APR-7 (CHANNEL A)

Welcome to my node, feel free to use. PBBS is WX9APR-1

ENTER COMMAND: B,C,J,N,X, or Help?

The X command is added, and the J Heard list is expanded a bit. And notice that it now tells you that you are connected on "Channel A". This node has two ports, or channels that connections can be made on. They can be configured to be "Channel A" and "Channel B", or "VHF" and "HF", to name a couple. When they are configured in this manner, the node becomes a "Gateway" to another frequency, and sometimes another node.

Using one of these nodes configured as a gateway is fairly easy. If the operator has the gateway enabled, you simply connect to the node and issue the J (heard) command. The heard list will indicate whether a given call-sign was heard on channel A, B, VHF or HF with a forward slash and an abbreviation after the call-sign. For example, this heard list shows:

## WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME BBS: \_\_\_\_\_ FREQ. \_\_\_\_\_ (Listing your home BBS is important)

Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_ NIGHT \_\_\_\_\_ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: \_\_\_\_\_ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: \_\_\_\_\_

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COMPLETE and return this form with your check or money order - \$15.00 membership only or \$20.00 membership and Badger State Smoke Signals. made payable to W.A.P.R. (NOT payable to Bob Gedemer) to:

Bob Gedemer KA9JAC/WAPR  
609 Wilson St.



WZ9APR/V 07/04/96 07:04  
WY9APR/H 07/04/96 07:03

WZ9APR was heard at 7:04 on July 4th, on VHF. WY9APR was heard on the same date, one minute earlier, on the HF port.

This is where the X command comes in.

If you wished to connect to WZ9APR, you would use the C command. If you wished to connect to WY9APR, you would use the X command

(Cross-Channel Connect) to make the connection. This tells the TNC to look for the station on the other port (channel).

This presents some interesting possibilities. The other port can be HF or VHF, or can be a different mode - like AMTOR, GTOR, or RTTY. If one of the ports is HF packet on say, 20 Meters, one could carry on a conversation with someone on the other side of the world, DX permitting.

This node can also provide a VHF gateway to another VHF LAN. Usually the short greeting you receive when you connect to the node will tell you what port does what job.

Though KA-Nodes are not really part of the Wisconsin Network, there certainly are enough of them. Besides the gateway service they can provide, they are far superior to the practice of digipeating to a network node, should you have difficulty making a direct connection to a node on your LAN frequency. In this manner, they help you to better navigate through the Wisconsin Network. Until next time, 73, Andy.

### THE TEST POINT (continued from page 3)

CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST  
EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST  
GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST  
HAYWARD, WI - HAYWARD HAMFEST  
KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST  
MANITOWOC, WI, LAKESHORE HAMFEST  
MARSHFIELD, WI - HAMFEST  
OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST  
RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST  
RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST  
ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST  
ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST  
SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARC HAMFEST  
STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST  
WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST  
WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST  
DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

#### LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. Contact: Dennis G. Eksten, W9SS, (815) 877-6768.

#### MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION

From the March 1996 edition of "The Ground Wave", Saint Paul Radio Club.

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC)  
Contact: Jay Bellows, K0QBE (612) 222-7253  
Test Site: St. Paul Technical College  
235 Marshall Ave.  
St Paul, MN

TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m.

Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)  
Contact: Art Mundy, W0FYX, (612) 571-7441  
Test Site: Blaine City Hall  
9150 Central Ave NE  
Blaine, MN

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC)  
Contact: Dan Royer, KE0OR (612) 888-9756  
Test Site: Creekside Community Center  
98th & Penn Avenue S  
Bloomington, MN

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)  
Contact: Paul Ramey, W0G0 (612) 432-1640  
Test Site: Hayes Community Center  
14601 Hayes Road  
Apple Valley, MN

TESTING: Second Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m.

W5YI  
Contact: Dave Ranney, N0AXL (612) 933-2182



## Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)  
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)



Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary  
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959

The July 16, 1996 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc., was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by club president, Steve Schulze, N9UD0.

The minutes of the last meeting as published in the BSSS were approved. Jim Decker, WB9UQT gave the financial report.

OLD BUSINESS: Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ summarized his participation on behalf of the club in the Twin Cities-Chicago AIDS Ride July 4th. Two meter communications between pit stop #2 at Devil's Lake State Park and their command post. Bill Klinkner, N9KXX stopped by and helped for awhile. Steve Shulze gave a report on field day. Twenty-seven members, operators and guests participated at the club's site in Columbia county. Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ took photographs of the club's field day operations.

NEW BUSINESS: A letter from Cruise Commanders were passed around to the members present regarding an amateur radio Caribbean cruise with the Racine Megacycle club. Steve Schulze announced he has a webpage on the internet (<http://www.thelorax.com/~SSchulze>) that he is using to announce club activities. Pete Sweeney gave an update on Sauk County emergency government

communications. There was also a discussion on a club repeater as well as an update about the club doing a hamfest at the fairgrounds.

Buck night winner was Jack Kirner, N9LKZ who was not present.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday August 14, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. in room 14 at the Baraboo Civic Center.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary

The following members and guests were present:

Steve Schulze	N9UD0	Baraboo
Art Kleefisch	W9WSS	Baraboo
Jim Decker	WB9UQT	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Pete Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
George Gabay	N9QQR	New Lisbon
David Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage

Test Site: Eden Prairie Library

479 Eden Prairie Drive

Eden Prairie, MN

TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month 6:30 p.m.

SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)

Contact: Dave Harrell, N0IPN (612) 459-8678

Test Site: Cottage Grove fire Station

8641 80th ST., S Cottage Grove, MN

TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

The above information has been furnished by the various VEs. However, it is suggested that you confirm time, date and location BEFORE you make the trip to the test site. Occasionally, a test may be canceled and/or dates and locations changed. A Phone call could save you some grief and a wasted trip.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN at the address shown on page 2.

THE BARGAIN MODE  
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FOR SALE: Rohn fold over tower, 54 feet. Complete with guy and turnbuckles, 3 element Hy-Gain antenna and HAM-M VII rotor. \$700.00. Daniel J. Smies, KC9EZ, 514 W. Union Ave, Cedar Grove, WI 53013. (414) 668-6938.

WANTED: MICROPHONES. Kenwood MC50. Also any microphone that will fit A Kenwood TR7400A. Contact Bob Johnson, WB9EIW at (608) 742-6460, or n6664 Fawn Circle, Pardeeville, WI 53954, or E-mail at [bjohn@peoples.net](mailto:bjohn@peoples.net).

25 Thoughts To See Hams Through Almost Any Crisis

1. Indecision is the key to flexibility.
2. You cant tell which way the train went by looking at the track.
3. There is absolutely no substitute for genuine lack of preparation.
4. Happiness is merely the remission of pain.
5. Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.
6. Sometimes too much to drink isn't enough.
7. The facts, although interesting, are irrelevant.
8. The careful application of terror is also a form of communication.
9. Someone who thinks logically is a nice contrast to the real world.
10. Things are more like they are today than they

ever were before.

11. Anything worth fighting for is worth fighting dirty for.

12. Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler.

13. Friends may come and go, but enemies accumulate.

14. I have seen the truth and it makes no sense.

15. Suicide is the most sincere form of self-criticism.

16. If you think that there is good in everybody, you haven't met everybody.

17. All things being equal, fat people use more soap.

18. If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone in mind to blame.

19. One seventh of your life is spent on Monday.

20. By the time you make ends meet, they move the ends.

21. Not one shred of evidence supports the notion that life is serious.

22. There is always one more imbecile than you counted on.

23. This is as bad as it can get, but don't bet on it.

24. Never wrestle with a pig. You both get dirty, and the pig likes it.

25 The trouble with life is that you're halfway through it before you realize that it's a "do it yourself" thing.

john d. seney wd1v

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# The Badger State Smoke Signals Shopper's Guide

## SWAPFESTS



**25th ANNUAL MIDWINTER  
SWAPFEST**  
WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER  
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN  
**SUNDAY  
JANUARY 12, 1997**

1996 WINNERS  
Christopher D. Motek, KB9GTK, Richland Center  
Karl J. Mueller, N9NFQ, West Allis  
Amy L. Thach, N9TLN, Wisconsin Rapids

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Dane County Expo Center  
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P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890  
Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

**SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**SWAPFEST 97**  
**July 12, 1997**  
(Held every July)  
**American Legion Park**  
**Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI**  
(414) 762-3235 Extension 58  
P. O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172

**Fox Cities Hamfest**  
**Sunday, November 3, 1996**  
Starlite Club, Hwy. 55 north of Kaukana

**HAMFEST INFO:**  
Chad Pennings, N9PRC  
318 E. Brewster St.  
Appleton, WI 54911  
(414) 759-0799

**EXAM INFO:**  
Larry Siebers, KD9IA  
(414) 759-1167

**Lakeshore Hamfest**  
and Computer Swapfest  
Manitowoc County Expo  
Intersection of Hwys. 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R  
**Saturday, May 10, 1997**  
For more information, call:  
Glenn, AA9MT: 414-684-7096  
Red, N9GHE: 414-684-9097 (nights)  
ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

**HAMFEST & COMPUTER EXPO**  
**ANTIQUE RADIO SHOW**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1996**  
8 A.M. TO 3 P.M.  
**OMNI CENTER • ONALASKA, WI**  
2 1/2 MILES NORTH OF LA CROSSE, WI ON HWY. 35  
RIVERLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
WESTERN WI ANTIQUE RADIO COLLECTORS CLUB  
CALL DICK LOW, KØJYB • 1-608-784-9176  
1520 NAKOMIS AVE., LA CROSSE, WI 54603

**19th Annual  
CWRA Swapfest**  
**Sunday, June 9, 1996**  
8 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**UNIVERSITY CENTER, U.W. STEVENS POINT**  
Info: John Kalina, KA9DJA (715) 342-9714  
1240 North Point Drive Stevens Point, WI 54481

**Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club**  
**SWAPFEST**  
**Saturday, July 27, 1996**  
**Eau Claire County Fairgrounds**  
Intersection of Highways 93 and I-94  
Carol Ceraso • (715) 723-9205 Liz Seasing • (715) 834-1303  
P.O. Box 1867 • Eau Claire, WI 54701

**RACINE HAMFEST 96**  
**Sunday, July 28, 1996**  
8 A.M. - 2 P.M.  
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East Frontage Road  
Between Highway 20 and Highway K  
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**Ozaukee Radio Club**  
**18TH ANNUAL RADIO AND  
COMPUTER SWAPFEST**  
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center  
Intersection of Highway 60 and County I  
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,  
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222  
Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club  
11448 N. Laguna Drive • Mequon, WI 53092

**Kettle Moraine Radio Amateurs**  
**SWAPFEST**  
**Sunday, October 13, 1996**  
**Waukesha County Expo Center**  
Info: KMRA Swapfest P. O. Box 411  
Waukesha, WI 53187-0411

**Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.**  
**AUCTION**  
**February 25, 1997 • 7:00 p.m.**  
American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street  
Eau Claire, WI  
CONTACT:  
Steve Hart, KA9OMC 715-665-2374  
E616 810th Ave. Knapp, WI 54749

## PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

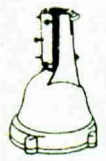
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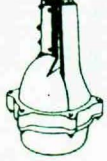
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